

IMPERIAL GAZETTEER.

UNITED PROVINCES,

AGRA DIVISION.



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AGRA DIVISION.

Agra Division.—A Division in the United Provinces, lying between 26° 22' and 28° 2' N. and 77° 17' and 80° 1' E. It is situated in the west of the Provinces, and the greater portion forms the central part of the DOAB or area between the two rivers Jumna and Ganges. On the north lie the Aligarh District of the Meerut Division, and the Punjab District of Gurgaon, while the Ganges forms most of the eastern boundary dividing the Agra from the Bareilly Division and from Oudh. The southern border meets the Allahābād Division, and the Native States of Gwalior and Dholpur, while the western frontier marches with Bharatpur State. The headquarters of the Commissioner are at AGRA. The total population of the Division has fluctuated considerably: 1872, 5,039,247; 1881, 4,834,064; 1891, 4,767,375; 1901, 5,249,542. In 1877-78 the Division suffered from famine, and between 1881 and 1891 from floods. In the last decade the eastern Districts recovered rapidly. The total area is 10,078 square miles, and the density of population 521 persons per square mile as compared with 445 for the Provinces as a whole. The Division is smaller than any other in the Provinces except Gorakhpur, but ranks seventh in population. In 1901 Hindus included 90 per cent. of the population and Musalmāns 9 per cent., while among the followers of other religions the most important were Jains (28,205), Christians (13,875, of whom 9,847 were natives) and Aryās (10,736). The Division includes six Districts as shown below:—

	Area in square miles.	Population, 1901.	Land revenue and cesses, 1903-04, in thousands of rupees.
Muttra	... 1,445	703,099	17,57,
Agra ...	... 1,845	1,060,528	19,75,
Farrukhābād	... 1,685	925,812	14,31,
Mainpurī	... 1,075	829,357	14,45,
Etāwah	... 1,691	806,798	15,38,
Etah ...	... 1,737	803,948	18,76,
Total	... <u>10,078</u>	<u>5,249,542</u>	<u>95,22,</u>

The Muttra, Agra, and Etāwah Districts lie on both sides of the Jumna, and a small portion of Farrukhābād is east of the Ganges, while Etah and Mainpurī are situated entirely in

the Doāb. The Division contains 62 towns and 8,043 villages. The largest towns are AGRA (188,022 with cantonments), FARRUKHABAD (67,338 with Fatehgarh and cantonments), MUTTRA (60,042 with cantonments), ETAWAH (42,570), and BRINDABAN (22,717). The chief places of commercial importance are Agra, Farrukhābād, and Mainpuri. Muttra and Brindāban are important centres of Vaishnava religious thought, and are connected with the life of Krishna, the eighth incarnation of Vishnu. KANAUJ was the chief town of several great dynasties in northern India before the Muhammadan invasion. Agra was the capital of India throughout the 16th and part of the 17th centuries, and the Mughals have left memorials of their rule in stone and marble which are unrivalled throughout India.

Bound-
aries, con-
figura-
tion, and
hill and
river sys-
tems.

Muttra District (*Mathurā*).—The north-western District of the Agra Division, United Provinces, lying between $27^{\circ} 14'$ and $27^{\circ} 58'$ N. and $77^{\circ} 17'$ and $78^{\circ} 12'$ E., with an area of 1,445 square miles. It is bounded on the north by the Punjab District of Gurgaon and the United Provinces District of Aligarh; on the east by Aligarh and Etah; on the south by Agra, and on the west by the Bharatpur State. The District lies on both sides of the Jumna which is fringed with ravines. In the centre of the western border the outlying spurs of the Arāvallis penetrate the District, but do not rise more than 200 feet above the plain. Muttra is remarkable for the absence of rivers. Besides the Jumna there are no channels, except the Karon or Karwan, which flows across the east of the District, and the Patwai or Patwāhī which joins the Jumna in *tahsil* Māt. The Jumna has left a chain of swamps, representing an older channel east of its present bed. One of these is called Nohjhil, a shallow marsh, which before it was drained sometimes attained a length of 6 miles in the rains. There is a curious depression in the west of the District which extends from the Bharatpur and Alwar States, but there is no flow of water.

Botany.

The flora of the western half of the District resembles that of Rājputāna. Early in the 19th century Bishop Heber was struck by the wildness of the country. There are still large stretches of waste land, especially in the Chhāta *tahsil*, covered with jungle in which the *ber* (*Zizyphus jujuba*) is

the largest tree. Along the canal the *babul* (*Acacia arabica*) has been largely planted, and the *nīm* (*Melia azadirachta*) is fairly common, but other trees are scarce.* The total area of grove land is less than 9 square miles.

The greater part of the District is the ordinary alluvium of Geology. the Gangetic plain, but the western hills are chiefly composed of quartzite. *Kankar* or nodular limestone is common, especially in the Jumna ravines. While the water in many wells is brackish, saline efflorescences are less common than elsewhere in the Doāb. -

Leopards, wolves, hyænas and *nīlgai* (*Portax pictus*) are Fauna. found chiefly in the hilly tracts near the Bharatpur border, and wild cattle from the Bharatpur State formerly did much damage, but are now kept out by a fence and ditch. Wild boars are plentiful in the Jumna ravines and *khādar*, and Muttra is celebrated for pig-sticking. The antelope is very common and the *chinkārā* or ravine-deer is also found. In the cold weather snipe and duck abound in the swamps and small tanks. Fish are found in the Jumna, and in many tanks, but are not much used for food.

The climate is very dry and hot owing to the proximity of sandy deserts to the west. Great extremes of temperature occur. In January the mean temperature falls to 60°, while in June it is over 93°. In winter ice is not uncommonly seen in shallow puddles in the early morning, while in April, May, and June hot winds blow with great force. Climate and temperature.

The average fall for the District during the last 17 years Rainfall. has been 26 inches, which is evenly distributed in every part, though the Jumna receives slightly more than the portions of the District on either side. Variations from year to year are large, and the fall has been less than 16 inches, and has reached nearly 36. -

Muttra was the capital of the ancient kingdom of SUR-ASENA, and its importance as a religious centre is referred to by Ptolemy, who calls it 'Modoura of the gods.' Arrian and Pliny describe it as Methora. The earliest facts relating to its history are derived from the coins found there, which indicate that Muttra was ruled by a series of Hindu Rājās in the 2nd History.

*A list of trees is given at page 421, Mr. F. S. Growse's *Mathura*.

and 1st centuries B.C., followed by Saka Satraps, who gradually assume Hindu names. In the 1st and 2nd centuries A.D., the inscriptions, found in considerable numbers, prove that the sway of the great Kushān kings was recognised here, and Muttra was a great stronghold of the Jains. In the 6th century Hiuen Tsiang found a large city containing 20 monasteries with 2,000 priests. Muttra was probably one of the places sacked by Mahmūd of Ghazni in 1018-19, but the District plays little part in the early Muhammadan period, when it was largely held by Mewātīs. While its political history is slight, the District is important in the religious history of modern Hinduism. The reformed Vaishnava creeds had their origin in southern and eastern India, but in the 15th and 16th centuries several new sects were founded here, which still influence Hindu thought. The western side of the District is celebrated as the Braj Maudal or country of Krishna, and almost every grove, mound, and tank is associated with some episode in his life. Throughout the year, and especially in the rains, bands of pilgrims from all parts of India may be seen reverently visiting the holy shrines. The increased religious zeal of the Hindus attracted the notice of Shāh Jahān and Aurangzeb who took steps to repress it. As the Mughal empire fell to pieces the history of the District merges in that of the Jāts of Bharatpur, and only acquires a separate individuality with the rise of Sūraj Mal. In 1712, Badan Singh, father of the famous adventurer, proclaimed himself leader of the Jāts, and took up his residence at Sahār, where he built a handsome palace. In his old age he distributed his possessions among his sons, giving the south-western portion of Bharatpur to his youngest, Pratāp Singh, and the remainder of his dominions, including Muttra, to his eldest, Sūraj Mal. On Badan Singh's death Sūraj Mal moved to Bharatpur and assumed the title of Rājā.

In 1748 the Mughal emperor, Ahmad Shāh, invited the Jāt leader to join with Holkar under the command of Nawāb Safdar Jang in suppressing the Rohilla rebellion. When Safdar Jang revolted (see OUDH), Sūraj Mal and his Jāts throw in their lot with him, while Ghāzī-ud-dīn, the wazīr, obtained the help of the Marāthās. Safdar Jang retreated to Oudh, whereupon Ghāzī-ud-dīn laid siege to Bharatpur, but, mistrusting his Marāthā allies,

reached Muttra on 14th May in that year. Two days later, some Bharatpur troops arrived, and marched for Delhi under British officers. The force halted at Hodal on the 26th; and on the 30th the sepoy sent to escort the treasure from Muttra to Agra proved mutinous, so that the officials were compelled to fly and join the troops at Hodal. Shortly afterwards, the Bharatpur force likewise mutinied, and the Europeans fled for their lives. The Magistrate returned to Muttra, and after vainly visiting Agra in search of aid, remained with the friendly Seths (native bankers) till 14th June. After the mutiny of the Gwalior contingent at Aligarh on 2nd July, the Nimach insurgents, marching on Muttra, drove all the Europeans into Agra. The whole eastern portion of the District then rose in rebellion, till 5th October, when the Magistrate made an expedition from Agra, and captured the rebel leader, Deokaran. Colonel Cotton's column shortly afterwards proceeded through the District to Kosi, punishing the insurgent villages; and after its return to Agra through Muttra, no further disturbances took place. In the 19th century the religious teaching of Muttra affected Dayānand, founder of the Aryā Samāj, who studied here for a time.

Archaeo-
logy

The town of Muttra and its neighbourhood are rich in archaeological remains, and the exploration of the Jain stūpa in the Kankālī *tila* or mound yielded valuable dated inscriptions of the Kushān kings.* The finest Hindu temples at Muttra were demolished or converted into mosques by the Muhammadans, but some have survived at BRINDABAN and MAHABAN. There are also fine specimens of the Jāt architecture of the 18th century at GOBARDHAN.

The
people.

Muttra contains 14 towns and 837 villages. Population has fluctuated considerably in the last 30 years; 1872, 782,460; 1881, 671,690; 1891, 713,421; 1901, 763,099. The District suffered severely in the famine of 1877-78. It is divided into 5 *tahsils*, MUTTRA, CHHATA, MAT, MAHABAN and SADABAD, the headquarters of each of these being at a place of the same name. The chief towns are the municipalities of MUTTRA,

* *Epigraphia Indica*, I and II. V. A. Smith, *The Jain stūpa at Mathurā*,

General
agricul-
tural con-
ditions.

A considerable difference is to be noted between the tracts east and west of the Jumna. The latter is less fertile, and before the construction of the Agra Canal irrigation was difficult, as the subsoil water is often brackish. Hamlets, apart from the main village site, are almost unknown, and this custom, which had its origin in the troubled times when the cultivator ploughed with sword and shield lying in a corner of his field, affects cultivation as manure is only applied to the home land near the village. On the other hand, Jits, who are the best cultivators, are chiefly found west of the Jumna, and the eastern *tahsils* are plagued by a weed called *baisuri* (*Pluchea lanceolata*). Besides the barren land bordering on the Jumna ravine, there is a strip of sandy soil along the foot of the hills on the western border.

Chief
agricul-
tural sta-
tistics
and crops.

The tenures are those commonly found in the Provinces. In 1883 out of 1,375 mahāls, 473 were *zamindāri*, 492 *pattidāri* and imperfect *pattidāri*, and 505 *bhaiyāchārā*. West of the Jumna some villages belong to *talukdāri* estates, chiefly to MURSAN. The principal statistics of cultivation in 1903-04 are shown below, in square miles:—

<i>Tahsil.</i>	Total.	Cultivated.	Irrigated.	Culturable waste.
Muttra ...	396	297	117	53
Chhāta ...	406	329	118	44
Māt ...	223	170	53	30
Mahātan...	240	195	47	20
Sadābād ...	180	154	59	8
Total ...	1,445	1,145	389	155

The chief food crops are *jowār* and barley which occupied 268 and 205 square miles respectively, or 23 and 18 per cent. of the net area cropped. *Gram* (193), wheat (153), and *bājra* (93) are also important, while cotton covered an area of 131 square miles. The small area under specially valuable crops, sugarcane, tobacco, and vegetables, is striking.

There have been no improvements of recent years either in ^{Improvements in agricultural practice.} methods, or in the introduction of new seed. The principal change has been the substitution of wheat for cotton, largely owing to the extension of canals. A small but steady demand exists for loans under both the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Acts, which amounted to Rs. 96,000 and Rs. 1,16,000 in the 10 years ending 1900, but advances during 1896-97 amount for Rs. 48,000 and Rs. 39,000 respectively. In 1903-04 the loans made were Rs. 1,500 and Rs. 1,065. With the extension of canal irrigation drainage has also been improved, especially in the Chhāta *tahsil*, and the Patwāi, or Patwāhā in Māt has been deepened. Private enterprise has drained the lake known as Nahjhil, while a few miles south of Muttra a dam has been built by the *samindārs* near Koeln to keep out the Jumna.

The Jumna ravines and *khādar* provide ample grazing ^{Cattle,} ground, but there is no indigenous breed of cattle. Kosi is a ^{horses, and} great cattle mart at which animals are sold which have been ^{sheep.} imported from the Panjab or Bharatpur State. Horse and mule-breeding are becoming popular, and three horse and two donkey stallions have been provided by Government. The sheep are of the ordinary variety.

In 1903-04 the area irrigated was 389 square miles out of ^{Irrigation.} a cultivated area of 1,145 square miles. Canals supplied 201 square miles and wells 188. The western division of the District is amply supplied by the Agra Canal and its distributaries. Up to 1903 the eastern portion had no canal irrigation except in a few villages of the Māt *tahsil*, but the Māt branch of the Upper Ganges Canal now supplies every portion, and irrigated 25,000 acres in the spring of 1904 and more than 20,000 in the autumn. Tanks and rivers are not used at all for irrigation, and the use of the former is forbidden by the religious sanctity attaching to most of them.

Sandstone is obtainable from the low hills in the Chhāta *tahsil*, but most of the stone used in the District is obtained from Agra or Bharatpur. The Giri Rāj, which is of sandstone, is considered so holy that to quarry it would be sacrilegious. *Kankar* is found in all parts, and occurs in block form in the Swlābād *tahsil*.

Arts and
Manufac-
tures.

The manufactures of the District are not very important. Calico printing is carried on at Brindāban, and old flannel is skilfully repaired. The masons and stone carvers of Muttra are justly celebrated, and many houses and temples are adorned with the graceful reticulated patterns which they produce. A special paper used for native account-books is made here, and the District is noted for the quaint silver models of animals produced at Gokul. In 1903 there were 10 cotton gins and presses employing about 970 hands daily. A few small indigo factories are still worked, but the industry is not thriving.

Com-
merce.

Grain and cotton are the chief exports, and the imports include sugar, metals, oilseeds and piece-goods, most of the trade being with Hāthras. Muttra is an important depôt for through traffic. Thus cotton and oilseeds from Bharatpur State pass through here to Hāthras, while sugar, salt, and metals are returned. Kosi, in the north of the District, is a great cattle market where the peasants of this District and of the upper Doāb generally purchase the plough-animals brought from Rājputāna or the Panjāb.

Communi-
cations.

The East Indian Railway runs for 7 miles across the east of the District and has one station. The narrow-gauge Cawnpore-Achhnerā line enters the District at the centre of the eastern boundary, crosses the Jumna and then turns south. It provides communication with Hāthras on the east and Agra on the south, and from Muttra a short branch serves the pilgrim traffic to Brindāban. An extension of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway from Agra to Delhi, passing through Muttra, was opened in 1905.

Muttra is well supplied with roads. Out of 500 miles, 171 are metalled and 329 unmetalled. Excluding 57 miles of metalled road, all of these are kept up at the cost of local funds. Avenues are maintained on 31 miles only. The main route is that from Agra to Delhi, a famous old road under native rule, which traverses the western half of the District from south to north. Other roads pass from Muttra west to Dig and Bharatpur, east through Hāthras to the Ganges, and south-east to Jalesar and Etah. The Agra Canal was used for navigation, but has been closed for this purpose since 1904.

Though precise records do not exist, famine must have been frequent before British rule began, and the awful disaster of 1783-84 was especially severe in this tract. In 1813 the north of the District was a centre of great distress. Many persons perished of hunger or sold their wives and children for a few rupees or a single meal. In 1825-26 a terrible drought affecting all the neighbouring country was especially felt in Mahābān *tahsil*. In 1837-38 there was scarcity in all parts of the District, but it was not so severe as in the central Doāb; and in 1860-61 and 1868-69 Muttra again suffered less than other Districts, though distress was felt. The famine of 1877-78 struck this tract more heavily than any other District in the Division, and mortality rose to 71·56 per thousand. The monsoon fall in 1877 was only 4·3 inches, and the deficiency chiefly affected the main food crops which are raised on unirrigated land. As usual, distress was aggravated by an influx of starving people from Rājputāna. In 1896-97 famine was felt again, especially in the Mahābān and Sadābād *tahsils*, which had no canal irrigation. In February 1897 the number on relief works was 20,000, rising in June to 23,000. Rs. 86,000 were advanced for the construction of temporary wells, chiefly east of the Jumna, and 1·8 lakhs of revenue were remitted or suspended. There was scarcity in 1899-1900, and advances were freely made, but relief works were not found necessary. The canal extensions of 1903 have probably secured the District against serious famine in the future.

The ordinary staff of the District includes a member of the Indian Civil Service and 3 Deputy Collectors recruited in India. There is a *tahsildār* at the headquarters of each of the 5 *tahsils*. Two Executive Engineers of the Canal department are stationed at Muttra.

Muttra is included in the Civil and Sessions Judgeship of Agra. There are two Munsiffs, one at Muttra and one at Mahābān. Owing to its situation near a Native State, serious dacoities are not infrequent, and cattle theft is common. Jāts, and in some places Gūjars, are the chief cattle lifters and *langūri* is regularly practised, a system by which the owner recovers his stolen property on payment of a certain proportion of its value. The Mallāhs (boatmen and fishermen) of the north

District
staff.

Civil Justice and
Crime.

of the District are noted pick-pockets, and frequent all the large fairs of the United Provinces, and even visit Bengal and ply their trade on the railway.

Land
Revenue
adminis-
tration.

Most of the District came under British administration at the end of 1803, and was then distributed between the surrounding Districts, Farrukhābād, Etāwah, and Agra. In 1804 the *parganas* included in Farrukhābād and Etāwah were made over to Aligarh, but in 1823 the nucleus of the eastern part of the District was formed with headquarters at Sadābād, and in 1832 Muttra, which had always been a cantonment, became the civil capital. There are still *enclaves* belonging to the Bharatpur State, the Rājā of which held part of the present District up to 1826. The early settlements were made under the ordinary rules for short periods of 1, 3 or 5 years, and were based on estimates. In the western part of the District the farming and *talukdāri* system was maintained for some time as in Aligarh, and was even extended, as *talukdāri* rights were sometimes granted in lieu of farms. In the eastern portion farmers and *talukdārs* were set aside from the first. The first regular settlement under Regulation VII of 1822 was made on different principles. West of the river an attempt was made to ascertain the rental assets, while in the east the value of the crops was estimated. The former settlement was not completed when Regulation IX of 1833 was passed, and the latter broke down from the excessive demand imposed. The revenue of the whole District (excluding 84 villages transferred from Agra in 1878) was therefore revised under Regulation IX of 1833, and an assessment of 13·6 lakhs fixed. The next settlement was made between 1872 and 1879. The method adopted was to assess on what were considered fair rents, arrived at by selection from actual rents paid. These were applied to the different classes of soil into which each village was divided. The revenue sanctioned amounted to 15·3 lakhs, to which must be added 1 lakh, the revenue of villages transferred from Agra in 1878. The incidence of revenue fell at R. 1-13-0 per acre, varying from R. 1-4-0 to Rs. 2-14-0. The bad years following the famine of 1877-78, and the fever of 1879 led to a decline in cultivation, and revisions of settlement were made between 1887 and 1891 which reduced the demand

by a lakh. The settlement has now been extended for a further period of ten years. Collections on account of land revenue and revenue from all sources are shown below in thousands of rupees:—

			1880-81.	1890-91.	1900-01.	1903-04.
Land revenue	...	...	15,95,	15,08,	15,41,	14,00,
Total revenue	...	...	19,73,	20,72,	21,60,	21,22,

Outside the three municipalities, MUTTRA, BRINDABAN and Kosi, and 11 towns administered under Act XX of 1856, the local affairs of the District are managed by the District board, which has a total income and expenditure of about 1·3 lakhs, chiefly derived from local rates. About half the expenditure is incurred in the maintenance of roads and buildings. Local self-gov. ernment.

There are 24 police-stations, and the District Superintendent of Police is assisted by 4 inspectors. In 1901 the force included 91 subordinate officers and 392 constables, besides 320 municipal and town police and 1,640 rural and road police. The District jail has accommodation for 318 inmates. Police and Jails.

Muttra takes a fairly high place in the Provinces in regard to literacy and 4·3 per cent. of the population (7·8 males and 3 females) could read and write in 1901. This is largely owing to its importance as a religious centre. The number of public schools fell from 105 in 1880-81 to 132 in 1900-01, but the number of pupils increased from 5,505 to 6,511. In 1903-04 there were 197 public schools with 8,081 scholars, including 478 girls, besides 82 private institutions with 1,781 pupils. All of these schools were primary except 9 of the public and 2 of the private schools. The expenditure in 1903-04 was Rs. 43,000, of which Rs. 31,000 were met from local and municipal funds and Rs. 8,300 from fees. Most of the schools are managed by the District and municipal boards. Education.

There are 8 hospitals and dispensaries which contain accommodation for 77 in-door patients. In 1903, 58,000 cases were treated, of which 995 were those of in-patients, and 3,600 operations were performed. The total expenditure in the same year was Rs. 16,000, chiefly from local funds. Hospitals and dispensaries.

Vaccina-
tion.

In 1903-04 the number of persons vaccinated was 24,000, representing 31 per 1,000 of population.

(R. S. Whiteway, *Settlement Report*, 1879; F. S. Growso, *Mathurā*, 1883; *District Gazetteer*, 1884 [under revision]; V. A. Smith, *The Jain Stūpa at Mathurā*.)

Muttra Tahsil.—South-western *tahsil* of Muttra District, United Provinces, conterminous with the *pargana* of Muttra, and lying between 27° 14' and 27° 39' N. and 77° 20' and 77° 51' E., with an area of 396 square miles. Population increased from 234,914 in 1891 to 246,521 in 1901. There are 218 villages and 6 towns, the largest of which are MUTTRA, the District and *tahsil* headquarters, population 60,042; BRINDABAN, (22,717); and GOBARDHAN (6,738). The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 2,94,000 and for cesses Rs. 55,000. The density of population, 623 to the square mile, is the highest in the District. The *tahsil* extends from the Jumna to the low hills on the Bharatpur border, and contains the celebrated hill called Giri Rāj. To the east the influence of the great river extends for three miles inland, and low alluvial soil, ravines, and sandy dunes are found along its banks. From the edge of this broken ground a flat uniform plain extends to the hills, without a single stream. The principal crops in the *khari* are jowār, cotton and bājra, and in the *rabi*, gram and wheat. Irrigation is chiefly provided by the Agra Canal, and in 1903-04 the irrigated area was 117 square miles out of a cultivated area of 297. The canal supplies an area twice as great as that served by wells.

Chhāta Tahsil.—North-western *tahsil* of the Muttra District, United Provinces, conterminous with the *pargana* of the same name, and lying between 27° 33' and 27° 56' N. and 77° 17' and 77° 42' E., with an area of 406 square miles. Population increased from 153,465 in 1891 to 173,756 in 1901. There are 158 villages and 2 towns, KOSI, population 9,565, and CHHATA, the *tahsil* headquarters (8,287). The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 3,38,000 and for cesses Rs. 59,000. The density of population, 423 to the square mile, is the smallest in the District. Up to 1894 the northern portion formed a separate *tahsil* called Kosi. The *tahsil* is bounded on the east by the Jumna, which is fringed with

ravines, and a sandy strip of land, but these are not so extensive as in the Muttra *tahsil* which lies to the south. A ridge of sand traverses the centre of the area, and another narrow belt is found further west, beyond which is a shallow depression not sufficiently marked to form a drainage channel. The western boundary is formed by the Bharatpur State, and in places low stone hills are found. In the north the wells are very deep and the water they contain is usually brackish. The *kharif* crop is more important here than the *rabi*, and *jowār* is the most common staple. Irrigation is provided by wells and by the Agra Canal. In 1903-04 the irrigated area was 113 square miles out of 329 cultivated. The canal supplies a rather larger area than wells. A drain has just been completed from a depression near Kosi to the Jumna.

Māt Tahsil (Māt).—North-eastern *tahsil* of Muttra District, United Provinces, conterminous with the *pargana* of the same name, and lying between 27° 35' and 27° 58' N. and 77° 31' and 77° 50' E., with an area of 223 square miles. Population increased from 89,451 in 1891 to 97,370 in 1901. There are 142 villages, but no towns. In 1903-04 the demand for land revenue was Rs. 2,65,000 and for cesses Rs. 43,000. The density of population, 437 to the square mile, is much lower than the District average. The Jumna forms the western boundary of the *tahsil*, and parallel to its course lies a series of depressions marking an old bed. Nohjhil, the most northern of these, was formerly a lake 6 miles long by a mile broad, but it has been drained. The Moti *jhil* in the south, which is smaller, still contains water, and is celebrated for the quantities of fish caught in it. A small stream called the Patwāhā is used as a canal escape. Light and sandy soil prevails in the *tahsil*, which forms a long strip of land stretching along the Jumna, the valley of which is narrow and badly defined. Up to 1903 canal irrigation was confined to very few villages, and in 1903-04 only 53 square miles were irrigated (chiefly by wells), out of a cultivated area of 170 square miles. The new Māt branch of the Upper Ganges Canal now commands a considerable area.

Mahāban Tahsil.—Central eastern *tahsil* of Muttra District, United Provinces, conterminous with the *pargana* of the

same name, and lying between $27^{\circ} 14'$ and $27^{\circ} 41'$ N. and $77^{\circ} 41'$ and $77^{\circ} 57'$ E., with an area of 240 square miles. Population increased from 133,488 in 1891 to 136,566 in 1901. There are 192 villages and 4 towns, the largest of which is MAHABAN, the *tahsil* headquarters, population 5,523. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 2,95,000 and for cesses Rs. 52,000. The density of population, 569 to the square mile, is slightly above the District average. On the west and south lies the Jumna which flows here in a sinuous course, and is bordered by a strip of sandy ravine land, one to three miles wide, of no value except as grazing ground. East of this the land is generally fertile, but up to 1903 irrigation was entirely supplied by wells, which irrigated 47 square miles in 1903-04 out of 195 cultivated. Most of the *tahsil* is now commanded by the Māt branch of the Upper Ganges Canal, opened in November 1903. Cultivation has suffered from the spread of a weed called *baisuri* which flourishes in dry seasons. The most important crops are *jowār* and cotton in the *khariḥ*, and mixed barley and gram and pure wheat in the *rabi*.

Sadābād Tahsil.—Easternmost *tahsil* of Muttra District, United Provinces, conterminous with the *pargana* of the same name, and lying between $27^{\circ} 16'$ and $27^{\circ} 31'$ N. and $77^{\circ} 53'$ and $78^{\circ} 13'$ E., with an area of 180 square miles. Population increased from 102,103 in 1891 to 108,886 in 1901. There are 127 villages and two towns, of which Sadabad, the *tahsil* headquarters, population 4,091, is the more important. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 3,07,000 and for cesses Rs. 49,000. The density of population, 605 to the square mile, is considerably above the District average. A small river, the Karon or Jhirnā, crosses the centre of the *tahsil*, and its channel has been improved by the Irrigation department as it is used as an escape. The Jumna just touches the south-western corner of the *tahsil*. In 1903-04 the area cultivated was 154 square miles, and the area irrigated 59. The latter was supplied entirely from wells, but in November 1903 the Māt branch of the Upper Ganges Canal was opened, which commands the western half of the *tahsil*. Cotton is, relatively, a more important crop in this *tahsil* than in any other part of the District.

Baldeo.—A town in *tahsil* Mahāban, District Muttra, United Provinces, situated in 27° 24' N. and 77° 49' E., on the metalled road from Muttra to Jalesar. Population 3,367 (1901). It is generally known in the neighbourhood as Dauji, and derives its importance from a celebrated temple. A shrine was first erected in the 17th century, when a statue of Baldeo was found in a tank. The actual temple was built late in the 18th century. It is of mean appearance, and is surrounded by a number of quadrangles where the resident priests and pilgrims are accommodated. The temple is in the hands of a peculiar caste called Ahivāsi Brāhmins, only found in this neighbourhood. Baldeo is administered under Act XX of 1856 with an annual income of about Rs. 1,100. The primary school contains about 120 pupils.

Barsāna.—Small town in *tahsil* Chhāta, District Muttra, United Provinces, situated in 27° 39' N. and 77° 23' E., 31 miles north-west of Muttra. Population 3,542 (1901). According to modern Hindu belief this was one of the favourite residences of Krishna's beloved mistress, Rādhā. It lies at the foot, and on the slope, of a hill originally dedicated to Brahmā. The hill has four peaks, each crowned with buildings erected at intervals in the 18th and 19th centuries, and the importance of the place dates from the settlement here of a Brāhman who had been family priest to the Rājās of Bharatpur, Gwalior and Indore early in the 18th century. In 1774 the Jāts under Sumrū or Reinhardt were defeated here by the imperial troops who plundered the town. A magnificent new temple is being built by the Mahārājā of Jaipur.

Brindāban.—(From *brindū*, *Ocymum sanctum*, and *ban*, a grove.) Municipality in the Muttra District and *tahsil*, United Provinces, situated in 27° 33' N. and 77° 42' E., near the Jumna. It is connected by a metalled road and branch line of the Cawnpore-Achhnerū railway with Muttra. Population 22,717 (1901), of whom only 1,409 are Muhammadans. The town has no political history, but according to tradition was the place where Krishna passed most of his youth and where his mistress, Rādhā, loved to dwell. It is annually visited by thousands of Hindus from the most distant parts of India. It contains about 1,000 temples, and the peacocks and monkeys

with which the neighbourhood abounds enjoy special endowments. The town itself dates from the 16th century when several holy men from different parts of India settled there, and four of the existing temples were built about that time. The finest of these is the temple of Govind Deva, built in 1590 by Rājā Mān Singh of Amber (Jaipur), a magnificent building of red sandstone, cruciform, with a vaulted roof. It has been restored by the British Government. The development of various Vaishnava cults connected with the worship of Krishna has caused the growth of the place. Some large temples were erected in the 19th century, one of which was built on the model of southern Indian temples, at a cost of 45 lakhs, by the great banking firm of Muttra. Another large temple is still under construction by the Mahārājā of Jaipur. The town lies some distance from the Jumna surrounded by sacred groves of trees, most of which contain shrines. The river face has been improved by handsome *ghāts* of stone steps. There are branches of the Church Missionary Society and American Methodist Missions, and the latter society maintains a dispensary, apart from the District board dispensary.

Brindāban has been a municipality since 1866. In the ten years ending 1901 the average income and expenditure were Rs. 24,000. In 1903-04 the income was Rs. 26,000, chiefly from octroi (Rs. 19,000), and the expenditure Rs. 28,000. There is a considerable industry in calico printing, and second-hand flannel is largely imported from Mārwar and Bikaner and renovated. The town is, however, largely dependent on the pilgrim traffic for its prosperity. There are 2 municipal and 4 aided schools for boys with 296 pupils in 1904, besides a small girls' school maintained by the American Methodist Mission.

Chhāta Town.—Town and headquarters of *tahsīl* of same name, District Muttra, United Provinces, situated in 27° 44' N. and 77° 3' E., on the Agra-Delhi road. Population 8,287 (1901). The principal feature of the town is its large fort-like *sarai*, covering an area of 12 acres, with battlemented walls and bastions, and two lofty entrance gateways of decorated stone work, dating from the time of Sher Shāh or Akbar. The interior is disfigured by a number of mean mud huts. During the Mutiny of 1857 the *sarai* was occupied by the rebels, who,

however, had to blow one of the towers down before they could effect an entrance. The town is administered under Act XX of 1856, with an annual income of about Rs. 1,200. Trade is chiefly local. The town contains a primary school with about 80 pupils.

Giri Rāj.—(The royal hill; called Annakūt in early Sanskrit literature). A sandstone hill, some four or five miles long, near the town of GOBARDHAN, District Muttra, United Provinces, between 27° 28' and 27° 31' N. and 77° 26' and 77° 29' E. The rock rises abruptly from the alluvial plain, and runs north-east and south-west with an average elevation of 100 feet. On the north it ends in the Mānasī Gangā tank at Gobardhan. According to Hindu fable, Indra, enraged at being deprived of his usual sacrifices, caused violent storms to pour down on the people of Braj, who were protected by Krishna by means of this hill, which he held aloft on the tip of his finger for seven days and nights. Pious pilgrims may still be seen measuring their length in the dust the whole way round it, while the hill is reckoned so holy that the main road, which crosses it at its lowest point, is carried over by a paved causeway.

Gobardhan.—Town in *taluk* and District Muttra United Provinces, situated in 27° 30' N. and 77° 28' E., on the road from Muttra to Dig (Bharatpur State). Population 6,738 (1901). It lies in a recess in the sacred hill called GĪRĪ RĀJ, and is built round a fine tank lined with masonry steps, which is called the Mānasī Gangā. At the *Devālī* festival in the autumn the steps and the façade of the surrounding buildings are outlined with rows of small lamps, and present a beautiful effect. Gobardhan is famous in tradition as one of the favourite residences of Krishna, and is also remarkable for its antiquarian remains. The oldest of these is the temple of Hari Deva, originally built about 1560 and restored by a Banīā in 1872. Two stately cenotaphs of richly carved stone commemorate Raudhīr Singh and Baldeo Singh, Rājās of Bharatpur, and are crowned by domes, the interiors of which are adorned by curious paintings. A third cenotaph is being constructed in memory of Rājā Jaswant Singh. North of the town, on the bank of the beautiful artificial lake called Kusum Sarovar, stands a group of buildings

built in memory of Sūrāj Mal by his son, Jawāhir Singh, soon after Sūrāj Mal's death near Ghāziābād in 1763. Gobardhan is administered under Act XX of 1856, with an annual income of about Rs. 2,200. There is little or no trade. The primary school has about 140 pupils.

Kosī.—Municipality in Muttra District, United Provinces, situated in 27° 48' N. and 77° 26' E., on the Agra-Delhi road. Population 9,565 (1901). The town contains a fine *sarai* ascribed to Khwāja Itibār Khān, governor under Akbar. During the Mutiny the District officials took refuge at Kosī for a time, but were compelled to flee by the defection of the Bharatpur force. There is a dispensary, and the Baptist Mission has a station here. The town lies low, and is surrounded by hollows containing water which had most injurious effects on the health of the inhabitants. A main drain has now been constructed. Kosī became a municipality in 1867. In 10 years ending 1901 the average income and expenditure were Rs. 12,000. In 1903-04 the income was Rs. 17,000, chiefly derived from octroi (Rs. 8,000); and rents (Rs. 3,000). The expenditure was Rs. 23,000. The municipality has Rs. 10,000 invested. There is a considerable trade in the collection of grain and cotton for export to Muttra, and 6 cotton gins and presses employed 580 hands in 1903. Kosī is, however, chiefly known by its large cattle market, one of the most important in this part of India, where more than 30,000 head of cattle are sold annually. There are 4 schools, with about 240 pupils in 1904.

Mahāban Town.—Headquarters town in *tahsil* of same name, District Muttra, United Provinces, situated in 27° 27' N. and 77° 45' E., near the left bank of the Jumna. Population 5,523 (1901). According to tradition Krishna spent his childhood at Mahāban. The legend goes that his uncle Kans, a giant, knew by prophecy that his sister's son would slay him, and commanded that if she brought forth a male child, it should at once be killed. The nurse, however, fled with the baby, and though the Jumna was in flood, the waters parted, and the fugitives reached Mahāban. A covered court divided into four aisles by five rows of sixteen richly decorated pillars, from which it takes its popular name of *assi khamba* or the eighty pillars, is said to have been the palace of Nanda, who adopted Krishna, and gave up his own

female child. The place was, however, re-erected in the time of Aurangzeb, from ancient Hindu and Buddhist materials, to serve as a mosque. Its architecture presents interesting features, which have been discussed by the late Mr. F. S. Growse.* Krishna's reputed cradle, a coarse structure, covered with calico and tinsel, still stands in the pillared hall, while a dark blue image of the sacred child looks out from a canopy against the wall. The churn from which he stole his foster-mother's butter is shown, and consists of a carved stone in which a long bamboo is placed, while a spot in the wall is shown as the place where the sportive milkmaids hid Krishna's flute. In addition to the steady stream of devotees from all parts of India, the pillared hall is resorted to by Hindu mothers from the neighbouring Districts for their purification on the 6th day after child-birth, whence the building derives its local name of the Chhatthī Pānā, or place of the Chhatthī Pūjā, i.e. 'the sixth day of worship.'

Mahāban first emerges into modern history in 1018-19, when it shared the fate of the neighbouring city of Muttra, and was sacked by Mahmūd of Ghazni. The Hindu prince is said, when the fall of the town became inevitable, to have solemnly slain his wife and children, and then to have committed suicide. An inscription found here records the erection of a temple in 1151 in the reign of Ajayapala, whose dynasty is uncertain.† In 1234 a contemporary writer mentions Mahāban as one of the gathering places of the imperial army sent by Shams-ud-din against Kālinjar. It is incidentally referred to by the emperor Bābar in 1526. In 1801 Jaswant Rao Holkar fled from the Doāb, after his defeat at Farrukhābād, by a ford a little west of Mahāban. A mile away lies the small village of Gokul, celebrated as the residence of the founder of the Vallabhāchārya sect, and still the headquarters of the sect. Mahāban is administered under Act XX of 1856 with an annual income of about Rs. 1,000. It contains a middle school with about 130 pupils, and at Gokul there is a primary school with 80.

Muttra City.—Municipality, cantonments, and headquarters of the District of the same name, United Province, situated on the right bank of the Jumna in 27° 30' N. and 77° 41' E.

* *Mathura*, 1853, page 274.] † *Epigraphia Indica*, II, page 275.

It lies on the main road from Agra to Delhi, and on the Cawnpore-Aohhnerā Railway, 886 miles from Calcutta and 914 from Bombay. A new broad-gauge line from Agra to Dehli, passing through Muttra, has recently been completed. Population has fluctuated in the last 30 years: 1872, 59,281; 1881, 57,724; 1891, 61,195; 1901, 60,042. In 1901 Hindus numbered 46,523, and Musalmāns 12,598.

The town of Muttra is one of the great centres of Hindu religious life, and is famous as the birth-place of Krishna, who is now revered as the eighth incarnation of Vishnu. Its early history has been narrated in that of the Muttra District. Inscriptions and other relics prove that early in the Christian era it was a great centre of Buddhism and Jainism, and in the 7th century the Chinese pilgrim still found Buddhist priests and monasteries. The Persian historians chiefly refer to it as a town to be sacked, or as a seat of idolatry with buildings to be destroyed. A town called Mahārat-ul-Hind, identified as Muttra, was sacked by Mahmūd of Ghazni in 1018-19. About 1500 Sultān Sikandar Lodi utterly destroyed all the shrines, temples, and images. During Akbar's reign religious tolerance led to the building of new temples; but in 1636 Shāh Jahān appointed a governor expressly to 'stamp out idolatry' in Muttra. In 1669-70 Aurangzeb visited the city, changed its name to Islām-ābād, and destroyed many temples and shrines, building mosques on two of the finest sites. Muttra was again plundered by the Afghān cavalry of Ahmad Shāh Durrāni in 1757, when a crowd of defenceless pilgrims were slaughtered. The town fell into British power in 1803 and was at once occupied as a cantonment, but did not become the civil headquarters of the District till 1832. Archaeological remains of the greatest value have been discovered in and near Muttra.*

The native city lies along the Jumna and presents a highly picturesque appearance from the railway bridge or opposite bank. From the water's edge rises a continuous line of stone *ghāts*, thronged in the early morning by crowds of bathers. Fine stone houses and temples line the narrow road, which passes along the *ghāts*, and above these are seen, tier upon tier, the flat-roofed houses of the town, which stand on ground

* *Epigraphia Indica*, I and II; V. A. Smith, *The Jain Stūpa at Mathurā*.

great banking firm of Mani Rām and Lakshmī Chand, one of the most celebrated in India, which has now collapsed. There were four cotton gins and presses with 392 hands in 1903, and there is a considerable export of cotton and grain, while sugar, piece-goods, and metals are imported. The town is noted for the production of paper for native account-books, and also for the manufacture of brass idols and other small articles sold to pilgrims. Muttra contains a large number of schools, including a high school with 170 pupils, a *tahsili* school with 150, the American Methodist school with 140, besides 7 schools for boys, and 11 for girls aided by the District or municipal boards, and 20 private schools and *pāthshālas*.

The population of the cantonments was 2,023 in 1901, and the ordinary garrison consists of a regiment of British Cavalry. In 1903-04 the income and expenditure of cantonment funds was about Rs. 7,000.

Bound-
aries,
configura-
tion, and
hill and
river
systems.

Agra District.—A District in the Division of the same name, United Provinces, lying between $26^{\circ} 41'$ and $27^{\circ} 25'$ N. and $77^{\circ} 26'$ and $78^{\circ} 32'$ E., with an area of 1,845 square miles. It is bounded on the north by the Districts of Muttra and Etah; and on the east by Mainpurī and Etāwah. On the south lie the Native States of Gwalior and Dholpur, and on the west Bharatpur. The District is divided into four distinct tracts by the rivers Jumna, Utangan or Bāngangā, and Chambal. North-east of the Jumna, which crosses the District with a very winding course from north-west to south-east, lie two *tahsils* with an upland area of productive leam separated from the river by a network of ravines which are of little use except for grazing. Three smaller streams, the Jhirnā (or Karon), the Sirsā, and the Sengar cross this tract, but are unimportant. The greater part of the District lies south-west of the Jumna and north of its tributary the Utangan. This tract is remarkable for the uniformity of its soil, which is generally a fertile loam, with little clay or sand. The ravines of the two great rivers, and of the Khārī Nadi which flows into the Utangan, are the chief broaks, while in the west of Fatehpur Sikri a few ranges of low rocky hills also appear. South of the Utangan lie two smaller tracts of markedly different appearance. In the south-west a range of low hills and numerous isolated hills are found,

and the country is traversed by many watercourses. The south-east of the District consists of a long strip of land, wider in the centre than at the ends, lying between the Utangan and Jumna on the north, and the Chambal on the south. Half of this area is occupied by the deep and far-spreading ravines of the rivers.

The flora of the District is that of the Doab north of the Botany. Jumna, while south of the great river it resembles that of Rājputāna. The former area is fairly well wooded, while in the latter trees are scarce.

The District is almost entirely occupied by the Gangetic Geology. alluvium, which conceals all the older rocks except in the west and south-west where ridges of upper Vindhyan sandstone rise out of the plain. Several divisions appear to be represented, from the lowest known as the Kaimur group, to the highest known as the Bhānder. A boring at Agra was carried to a depth of 513 feet before striking the underlying rock.

Leopards and hyenas are found in the ravines and in the Fauna. western hills, while wolves are commonest near the Jumna, and the ravine-deer frequents the same haunts. The antelope is seen in most parts of the District. Fish are plentiful in the rivers and are eaten by many classes.

Owing to its proximity to the sandy deserts on the west, Climate and temperature. Agra District is very dry, and suffers from greater extremes of temperature than the country farther east. Though cold in winter, and exceedingly hot in summer, the climate is not unhealthy. The mean annual temperature is about 75°; the lowest monthly average being about 59° in January, and the highest 95° or 96° in May and June. The average rainfall is Rainfall. about 26 inches: there is not much variation in different parts; but the tract near the Jumna receives the largest fall. Great variations occur from year to year, and the amount received ranges from 11 to 36 inches.

The District of Agra has scarcely any history, apart from History. that of the city. Sikandar Lodi, king of Delhi, had a residence on the east bank of the Jumna, which became the capital of the empire about 1501. It was occupied by Bābar after his victory over Ibrāhīm Khān in 1526, and its foundations are still to be seen opposite the modern Agra. Bābar fought a great and decisive battle with the Rājputs near Fatehpur Sikri in 1527.

His son, Humāyūn, also resided at old Agra, until his expulsion in 1540. Akbar lived in the District for the greater part of his reign, and founded the present city of Agra on the west bank. The town of Fatehpur Sikri also owes its origin to the same emperor, and dates back to 1569 or 1570. A tank of twenty miles in circumference, which he constructed in its neighbourhood, can now be traced in the fragmentary ruins of the embankment. The mausoleum at Sikandra, five miles from Agra, marks the burial-place of the great Mughal organizer. It was built by his son, Jahāngīr, and has a fine entrance archway of red sandstone. Jahāngīr, however, deserted Agra towards the close of his reign, and spent the greater part of his time in the Punjab and Kābul. Shāh Jahān removed the seat of the imperial court to Delhi, but continued the construction of the Taj and the other architectural monuments to which the city owes much of its fame. The success of Aurangzeb's rebellion against his father was assured by the victory gained at Sāmogarh in this District in 1658, and the deposed emperor was then confined in the fort. From the year 1666 the District dwindled into the seat of a provincial governor, and was often attacked by the Jāts. During the long decline of Mughal power, places in this District were constantly the scene of important battles. On the death of Aurangzeb his sons fought at Jājau near the Dholpur border. Early in 1713 the fate of the Mughal empire was again decided near Agra by the victory of Farrukh Siyar over Jahāndār. The importance of the District then declined; but in 1763 Agra was taken by the Jāts of Bharatpur under Sūraj Mal and Walter Reinhardt, better known by his native name of Sumrū. In 1770 the Marāthās overran the whole Doāb; but were expelled by the imperial forces under Najaf Khān in 1773. The Jāts then recovered Agra for a while and were driven out in turn by Najaf Khān in the succeeding year. After passing through the usual convulsions which marked the end of the last century in upper India, the District came into the hands of the British by the victories of Lord Lako in 1803. Under our strong and peaceful government the annals of Agra call for no special notice up to the date of the Mutiny. The city was the capital of the North-Western Provinces from 1843 until the events of 1857. The outbreak of the Mutiny at Agra in May of that

year will be related under Agra city. As regards the District, the *tahsils* and *thānas* fell into the hands of the rebels, after the defection of the Gwalior contingent, on the 15th of June. By the 2nd of July the Nimach and Nasirābād mutineers had reached Fatehpur Sikri, and the whole District became utterly disorganized. On the 29th, however, an expedition from Agra recovered that post, and another sally restored order in the Itimādpur and Firozābād *parganas*. The Rājā of Awa maintained tranquillity in the north, while the Rājā of Bhadāwar secured peace on the eastern border. But after the fall of Delhi in September the rebels from that city, joined by the bands from Central India, advanced towards Agra on the 6th of October. Four days later Colonel Greathed's column from Delhi entered Agra without the knowledge of the mutineers, who incautiously attacked the city and hopelessly shattered themselves against his well-tried force. They were put to flight easily and all their guns taken. The rebels still occupied Fatehpur Sikri; but a column despatched against that place successfully dislodged them. On the 20th of November the last villages remaining in open rebellion were stormed and carried; and on the 4th of February, 1858, the last man still under arms was driven out of the District.

Fragments of Hindu buildings have been discovered at a few places, but none of any importance, and the archaeological remains of the District are chiefly those of the Mughal period. Among these must be mentioned the magnificent fort and buildings contained in it and the beautiful Taj at Agra; the tomb of Akbar at SIKANDRA; the buildings near Agra on the opposite bank of the river, and Akbar's city at FATEHPUR SIKRI. The preservation and restoration of these splendid memorials have been undertaken by Government, and large sums have been spent, especially in recent years.

The District contains 1,197 villages and 9 towns. The population fell considerably between 1872 and 1881 owing to famine, and has not yet recovered its former level: 1872, 1,076,005; 1881, 974,656; 1891, 1,003,796; 1901, 1,060,528. It is divided into 7 *tahsils*: ITIMADPUR, FIROZABAD, BAH, FATEHABAD, AGRA, KIRAOLE, and KHATAIBAGARH, the headquarters of each being at a place of the same name. The chief towns

are the municipalities of AGRA, the administrative headquarters of the District, and FIROZABAD, and the notified area of FATEHPUR SIKRI. The following table gives the principal statistics of population in 1901 :—

Tahsil.	Area in square miles.	Number of—		Population.	Population per square mile.	Percentage of variation in population between 1891 and 1901.	Number of persons able to read and write.
		Towns.	Villages.				
Itimādpur ...	277	2	180	159,881	574	+ 3·8	4,333
Firozābād ...	203	1	180	119,775	590	+ 6·4	3,324
Bāh ...	341	1	204	123,591	362	— 1·8	3,824
Fatehābād ...	241	1	181	114,733	476	+ 5·5	2,897
Agra ...	202	1	140	291,044	1,441	+ 6·3	21,409
Kiraoli ...	272	2	171	123,812	455	+ 13·6	3,603
Khairāgarh ...	300	1	153	127,693	413	+ 3·0	2,911
District Total ...	1,845	9	1,197	1,030,628	575	+ 5·6	42,303

Hindus form 86 per cent. of the population, Musalmāns 12 per cent., and the followers of other religions include Jains 12,953, Christians 5,522, and Aryās 2,354. The density of population is above the Provincial average, and the rate of increase between 1891 and 1901 was also high. More than 99 per cent. of the population speak Western Hindi, the prevailing dialect being Braj.

Castes
and occu-
pations.

The most numerous caste is that of Chamārs (leather-workers and labourers), 175,000; and next come the Brāhmins, 110,000; Rājputs, 89,000; Jāts, 69,000; Baniās, 65,000; Kāchhīs (cultivators), 53,000; and Korīs (weavers), 32,000. Gadariās or shepherds, Ahirs or cowherds, Gūjars or graziers, Lodhas (cultivators), and Mallīs (beatmen and fishermen), each number from 20,000 to 30,000. More than a quarter of the Musalmāns call themselves Shaiḥs; but most of these are descended from converts. Pathāns number 11,000, and the Bhistis (or water-carriers), Saiyids, converted Rājputs, Bhangīs (or sweepers), and

Fakirs vary from 6,000 to 8,000. About 48 per cent. of the population are supported by agriculture, 10 per cent. by general labour, and 8 per cent. by personal services. Rājputs, Brāhmans, Baniās, Jāts, and Kāyasths are the principal landholders, and Brāhmans, Rājputs, Jāts, and Chamārs the principal cultivators.

Out of 2,343 native Christians in 1901, 1,158 were Methodists, 774 Anglicans, and 346 Roman Catholics. The Roman Catholic Mission has been maintained continuously since the 16th century, while the Church Missionary Society commenced work in 1813 and the American Methodist Mission in 1881. Christian Missions.

The quality of the soil is generally uniform, and the relative facility of irrigation is the most important agricultural factor. General agricultural conditions. Along the rivers there is usually a rich tract of low alluvial soil called *kachhūr*; but the area is very small except on the bank of the Chambal. On the border of Gwalior is found a black soil resembling the *mār* of BUNDELKHAND and called by the same name. In the tract north of the Jumna there has been some deterioration owing to the spread of the weed *baisuri* (*Pluchea lanceolata*), which is commoner in MUTTRA DISTRICT. The west of the District is subject to considerable fluctuations, owing to excessive or deficient rainfall, and was formerly ravaged by wild cattle from Bharatpur, which are now kept out by a fence and ditch made in 1893.

The tenures found in the District are those common elsewhere. *Zamīndāri mahāls* number 2,111, perfect *pattidāri* 1,824, and imperfect *pattidāri*, 1,608. The last-mentioned also include *bhatyāchārū* or, as they are called here, *kabzādāri mahāls*. There are a few *talukdāri* estates, but none of importance. The principal statistics for 1903-04 are given below (in square miles):— Chief agricultural statistics and principal crops.

Tahsil.	Total.	Cultivated.	Irrigated.	Culturable waste.
Itimādpur ...	277	205	75	23
Firozābād ...	203	141	60	13
Itāh ...	341	190	13	25
Fatehābād ...	241	109	60	10
Agra ...	202	151	60	23
Kirāolī ...	272	210	67	30
Khatrāgsrā ...	309	206	31	66
Total ...	1,845	1,273	308	184

The staple food crops and the area under each in 1903-04 are: *bājra* (283), *gram* (237), *jowār* (179), wheat (176), and barley (192). Cotton covered 118 square miles, and is grown in all parts of the District.

Improve-
ments in
agricul-
tural
practice.

There have been no improvements in agricultural practices of recent years. Since the last settlement there has been a slight increase in canal irrigation, but cultivation has fallen off. A steady demand exists for advances under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Acts, which amounted to more than a lakh under each Act in 10 years ending 1900. These figures included sums of Rs. 42,000 and Rs. 28,000, respectively, advanced in 1896-97. In 1903-04 the advances were Rs. 5,000.

Cattle,
ponies,
and
camels.

No indigenous breed of cattle is found, and the best animals are imported from Central India or the Punjab. An attempt has been made to improve the breed of horses, and two stallions are maintained by Government in the District. A large fair is held at BATESAR about November, where large numbers of cattle, horses, and camels are brought by dealers from distant parts.

Irriga-
tion.

In 1903-04 the area irrigated was 368 square miles out of a cultivated area of 1,272 square miles. Canals supplied 68 square miles and wells 299. The Upper Ganges Canal served about 5 square miles in the tract north of the Jumna, while the Agra Canal supplied the area between the Jumna and Utangan. The two tracts south of the Utangan are entirely dependent on wells, which are very deep and brackish in places. The Utangan was once used as a source of irrigation; but in 1864 the works were closed, as the alterations in the natural channel had caused much damage.

Minerals.

The most valuable mineral product of the District is sandstone, which is quarried in the western *tahsils* of Kiraoli and Khairāgarh, and is extensively used for building, while millstones and grindstones are also largely made. Block *kankar* is found in the Chambal ravines, and nodular *kankar* is common everywhere.

Arts and
Manufac-
tures.

Agra city is the most important centre of arts and manufactures in the District. It is especially celebrated for marble articles beautifully inlaid with precious stones, and for the carving of stone or marble into screens of delicate pierced tracery. Cotton and woollen carpets are manufactured, and

the silk and gold and silver embroidery of this place have some reputation. *Hukka* stems are also made, but the trade is decreasing. There were 8 cotton gins and presses employing 1,192 hands daily in 1903, and 3 spinning mills with 1,562. Smaller industries include a flour mill, a bone mill, and a few indigo factories.

The city also monopolises the greater part of the trade. It ^{Com-} is a centre for the collection of raw produce, grain, oilseeds, and ^{merco.} cotton for export, and also a distributing centre from which cotton goods, metals, sugar, and salt are sent to the surrounding tracts. Rājputāna and Central India supply cotton, oilseeds, stone, and salt, taking in return sugar, grain, cotton goods, and metals. Grain and cotton are exported to Bombay and Calcutta.

Agra is well supplied by railways. The East Indian Rail- ^{Railways} way passes through the tract north of the Jumna and is con- ^{and} nected by a branch from Tundla to Agra with the Indian ^{Roads.} Midland or Great Indian Peninsula Railway. The narrow-gauge Rājputāna-Mālwa line runs west from Agra, and a branch from this at Achhnerā joins Muttra and Hathras. A new broad-gauge line from Agra to Delhi has been completed. The total length of metalled roads is 177 miles, of which 79 are maintained at the cost of Provincial funds, while the remainder and also 434 miles of unmetalled roads are maintained by local funds. Arteries are kept up on 232 miles. An old imperial route from Delhi to the east passed through Agra, and other roads lead to Bombay through Dholpur, to Rājputāna and to the Doab.

The District has suffered much in periods of drought, ^{Famine.} and famines occurred in 1783, in 1813, in 1819, and in 1838. In the last-named year as many as 113,000 paupers were being relieved in Agra city alone, while 300,000 starving people immigrated into the District. In 1860-61 the District was again visited by severe scarcity, though it did not suffer so greatly as the country immediately to the north. In July 1861 the daily average of persons on relief works rose to 66,000. Distress was felt in 1868-69, but did not deepen into famine. In 1877-78 the failure of the autumn crops following the high prices of the previous year caused famine, and relief works were opened on the Achhnerā-Muttra Railway and on the roads,

the highest number employed at one time being 28,000. The last famine was in 1896-97, when distress was felt throughout the District, and most severely in the Bāh and Khairāgarh *tahsils*, which are not protected by canals and have exceptionally poor means of irrigation. The labouring classes were the chief sufferers, and the number on relief rose to 33,000, but many of these were the wives and children of persons employed in the city who added to the family income by working on the new park at Agra.

District sub-divisions and staff. The ordinary District staff includes, besides the Collector, one or two members of the Indian Civil Service and 5 Deputy Collectors recruited in India. A *tahsildār* resides at the headquarters of each of the seven *tahsils*.

Civil Justice and Crimo. There are two District Munsiffs and a Judge of the Small Cause Court. The Subordinate Judge and District and Sessions Judge have jurisdiction throughout the two Districts of Muttra and Agra. Crime of the more serious varieties is fairly common, and the District is noted, at intervals, for the large number of robberies and dacoities which take place. Cattle thefts are also frequent, and the difficulty in detecting these serious offences is enhanced by the proximity of the borders of the Native States. Infanticide was formerly very prevalent, and the inhabitants of a few villages are still proclaimed and kept under observation.

Land Revenue administration. The District was conquered in 1803, and the early settlements were made for short terms, as usual, the demand being fixed on a consideration of the offers made by persons for whole *parganas*, but after the first year or two distributed over individual villages. The Bāh *tahsil* was, however, farmed for some time. The first regular settlement was completed between 1834 and 1841, on the basis of a professional survey. Soils were classified and rent-rates applied, which were derived by selection from actual rates, and the revenue was fixed at two-thirds of the assets so calculated, but the estimates were also checked by comparison with the earlier assessments. The revenue demand amounted to 16·2 lakhs. In 1872 a revision was commenced. The valuation was based, as before, on rent rates actually paid; but several difficulties arose in fixing standard rates. Rents were usually paid in the lump, without any differentiation for different

classes of soil. One-quarter of the cultivation was in the hands of the landholders, and in half the area rents had remained unchanged from the last settlement. The assets calculated were revised by a comparison with the actual rentals; but the assessment provided for prospective increases. The revenue fixed amounted to 18 lakhs representing 50 per cent. of the assets; the incidence fell at 1·7 per acre, varying from R. 1·1 in Bah to Rs. 2 in Itimādpur *tahsil*. Extensive reductions of revenue were made in 1886 and 1891 in the Agra and Kiraoli *tahsils* owing to deterioration and a severe assessment, but the tract is now recovering. In 1903 it was decided that the settlement, which would ordinarily expire in 1907-09, should be extended for ten years. The receipts from land revenue and all sources have been (in thousands of rupees):—

		1890-91.	1890-91.	1900-01.	1903-04.
Land revenue	...	17,34,	17,40,	17,78,	17,55,
Total revenue	...	22,78,	27,49,	28,19,	28,34,

Besides the two municipalities of AGRA, and FIROZABAD, Local and the notified area of FATEHPUR SIKRI, there are six towns self-gov-
administered under Act XX of 1856. The income and expen-
diture of the District board are about 1·5 lakhs. The income
is chiefly derived from local rates, and nearly half the expen-
diture is on roads and buildings.

The District Superintendent of Police usually has 2 Assist- Police and
ant Superintendents and 9 inspectors working under him, Jails.
and in 1904 he had a force of 158 subordinate officers and
840 men. There are also about 90 municipal and town police
and 2,300 rural and road police. The District contains 33 police-
stations and District and central jail.

Agra takes a fairly high place in the Province as regards Educa-
tion.
the literacy of its inhabitants. In 1901 four per cent. of the
people (7 males and 5 females) were able to read and write. The
number of schools recognised as public fell from 245 in 1880-81
to 192 in 1900-01, but the number of students rose from 7,633 to
9,322. In 1903-04 there were 266 public institutions with 13,911
students, of whom 1,513 were girls, besides 102 private schools,

with 2,099. Of the public institutions five are managed by Government, and the rest chiefly by the District and municipal boards. There are 3 arts colleges at AGRA, in two of which law classes are held, and also a normal school and medical school. Out of a total expenditure of 2·4 lakhs, only Rs. 67,000 are received from fees.

Hospitals and dispensaries. The District contains 16 hospitals and dispensaries, with accommodation for 333 in-patients. In 1903, 178,000 cases were treated, of which 5,000 were those of in-patients, and 8,000 operations were performed. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 58,000, chiefly from local and municipal funds. The Thomason Hospital is one of the finest in the Provinces.

Vaccination. About 35,000 persons were vaccinated in 1903-04, representing 33 per 1,000 of population. Vaccination is only compulsory in the cantonment and municipalities.

(H. F. Evans, *Settlement Report*, 1880; H. R. Nevill, *District Gazetteer*, 1905.)

Itimādpur Tahsil.—Northern *tahsil* of Agra District, United Provinces, conterminous with the *pargana* of the same name, and lying between 27° 5' and 27° 24' N. and 77° 58' and 78° 22' E., with an area of 277 square miles. Formerly known as Khandauli. Population increased from 153,761 in 1891 to 159,881 in 1901. There are 180 villages and two towns, ITIMADPUR, the *tahsil* headquarters, population 5,322, and TUNDLA (3,044). The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 3,10,000 and for cesses Rs. 38,000. The density of population, 574 to the square mile, is about the same as the District average. The *tahsil* lies entirely north of the Jumna, and is crossed by the small river Jhirnā or Karon. Most of it forms a level upland of very uniform rich loam, but a network of ravines spreads inland from the Jumna and Jhirnā, which are barren and only of use for grazing. Bordering on the river beds lies a small tract of alluvial soil, which often deteriorates to sand, capable only of producing molons. In 1903-04 the area irrigated was 75 square miles out of a cultivated area of 205 square miles. Irrigation is supplied almost entirely by wells.

Firozābād Tahsil.—North-eastern *tahsil* of Agra District, United Provinces, conterminous with the *pargana* of the same

name, and lying between $26^{\circ} 59'$ and $27^{\circ} 22'$ N. and $78^{\circ} 19'$ and $78^{\circ} 32'$ E., with an area of 203 square miles. Population increased from 112,153 in 1891 to 119,775 in 1901. There are 186 villages and one town, FIROZABAD, the *tahsil* headquarters; population 16,819. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 2,25,000 and for cesses Rs. 27,000. The density of population, 590 to the square mile, is slightly above the District average. The *tahsil* lies north of the Jumna, and is crossed by two small streams, the Sira and Seugar. About one-sixth of the total area consists of the Jumna ravines, which are barren, but produce thatching-grass and a little stunted timber. The rest of the *tahsil* is a fertile tract of upland soil, with a few patches of *ūsar*, *dhūk* (*Butea frondosa*) jungle, and here and there sandy ridges. In 1903-04, 141 square miles were cultivated and 60 were irrigated; wells supply over 90 per cent. of the irrigated area, and the Upper Ganges Canal serves only about 5 square miles.

Bāh.—South-eastern *tahsil* of Agra District, United Provinces, continuous with the *pargana* of the same name, and lying between $26^{\circ} 45'$ and $26^{\circ} 59'$ N. and $78^{\circ} 12'$ and $78^{\circ} 51'$ E., with an area of 341 square miles. The *tahsil* is sometimes called Pindhat. Population decreased from 125,818 in 1891 to 123,591 in 1901. There are 201 villages and one town, Bāh, the *tahsil* headquarters, population 3,867. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 2,09,000, and for cesses Rs. 25,000. The density of population, 362 to the square mile, is the smallest in the District, the average for which is 575. Bāh is almost an island, cut off from the rest of the District by the Utangan and Jumna on the north, and from the Gwalior State on the south by the Chambal. While the average breadth between these rivers is 8 or 9 miles, the wild maze of deep ravines which fringe them reduces the comparatively level central tract to a width of 4 or 5 miles. The villages in this area are perched on almost inaccessible positions—a memorial of the time when security was required against the revenue collector and the foreign invaders. While the actual ravines are totally barren, and do not produce even trees, the low-lying land, here called *kachhūr*, is exceptionally fertile. This is especially the case near the Chambal where black soil, called

mār as in Bundelkhand, is common. The Utangan *kachhār*, though of different composition, is equally fertile, while the Jumna lowlands are poorer. In 1903-04 out of 190 square miles cultivated, only 12 were irrigated, almost entirely from wells. The great depth of the spring level and cost of irrigation make this tract peculiarly liable to distress in dry seasons, and it was the only *tahsīl* in this District which lost in population between 1891 and 1901.

Fatehābād.—South central *tahsīl* of Agra District, United Provinces, contorminous with the *pargana* of the same name, and lying between 26° 56' and 27° 8' N. and 77° 55' and 78° 26' E., with an area of 241 square miles. The *tahsīl* is bounded on the north-east by the Jumna, on the south by the Utangan, and on the west by the Khārī Nālī. Population increased from 108,446 in 1891 to 114,733 in 1901. There are 161 villages and one town, Fatehābād, the *tahsīl* headquarters; population 4,673. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 2,51,000 and for cesses Rs. 30,000. A considerable area is occupied by the ravines of the Jumna and Utangan, but most of the *tahsīl* is an upland tract of average fertility in which well irrigation is easy, while the Agra Canal passes through it. There are two main depressions, one of which was probably an old bed of the Jumna. In 1903-04 the area cultivated was 169 square miles, and the area irrigated 60. The Agra Canal supplies about one-quarter of the latter. Wells are, however, the most important source of irrigation.

Agra Tahsīl.—North central *tahsīl* of Agra District, United Provinces, contorminous with the *pargana* of the same name and lying between 27° 3' and 27° 17' N. and 77° 51' and 78° 13' E., with an area of 202 square miles. Population increased from 272,718 in 1891 to 291,041 in 1901. There are 140 villages and one town, Agra, the District and *tahsīl* headquarters; population 188,022. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 2,24,000 and for cesses Rs. 30,000. The density of population, 1,441 to the square mile, is 2½ times that of the District, owing to the presence of the great city. On the north and east the Jumna forms the boundary and is bordered by a fringe of ravines, usually extending a mile from the river. The ravines, though barren, produce valuable grass used for making

thatch and rope, and also form grazing-grounds. In the low-lands near the river melons and other vegetables are grown. The greater part of the *tahsil* is a level upland with a well-marked depression in the west. The area cultivated in 1903-04 was 151 square miles, of which 60 were irrigated. The Agra Canal supplies about one-third of the irrigated area, and wells serve most of the remainder. In a few places the sub-soil water is brackish.

Kiraoli.—North-western *tahsil* of Agra District, United Provinces, conterminous with the *pargana* of Fatehpur Sikri, and lying between 27° and $27^{\circ} 17'$ N. and $77^{\circ} 30'$ and $77^{\circ} 55'$ E., with an area of 272 square miles. Population increased from 106,977 in 1891 to 123,812 in 1901. There are 171 villages and two towns, FATEHPUR SIKRI, population 7,147 and ACHHNERA, (5,375). The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 2,51,000 and for cesses Rs. 31,000. The density of population, 455 to the square mile, is lower than the District average. The Utangan flows close to the southern border, while the Khārī Nadi crosses the centre of the *tahsil*. The eastern portion is level, but in the western half there are hills, the most important being the rango on which the town of Fatehpur Sikri stands. A much shorter and lower range of hills runs parallel to this, north of the Khārī Nadi; both ranges consist of red sandstone. The cultivated area was 210 square miles in 1903-04, and the irrigated area was 67 square miles. About one-third of the total irrigated area, is served by the Agra Canal and extensions are contemplated. Well irrigation supplies the rest of the irrigated area, but in many parts the water is so brackish that without good rains it cannot be used.

Khairāgarh.—South-western *tahsil* of Agra District, United Provinces, conterminous with the *pargana* of the same name, and lying between $26^{\circ} 45'$ and $27^{\circ} 4'$ N. and $77^{\circ} 26'$ and $78^{\circ} 7'$ E., with an area of 309 square miles. Population increased from 123,893 in 1891 to 127,692 in 1901. There are 155 villages and one town, Jagnair, population 4,051. Khairāgarh, the *tahsil* headquarters, is a small village. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 2,85,000 and for cesses Rs. 35,000. The density of population, 413 to the square mile, is much lower than the District average. The *tahsil* is divided

into two portions by the Utangan. The tract south-west of this river is a spur of British territory almost surrounded by the Native States of Bharatpur and Dholpur, with a range of the Vindhya along the northern boundary and isolated hills scattered about south of this range. These hills are of red sandstone, which is valuable for building purposes. Near the hills the soil is sandy, but after passing a tract of infertile clay, a richer soil is reached. East of the Utangan the ordinary loam is found, stretching up to the ravines of the Khārī Nadi which forms the eastern boundary of the *tahsīl* and is bordered by deep and precipitous ravines. There is no canal irrigation, and in 1903-04 the irrigated area was only 3.1 square miles out of 206 cultivated. Wells are the sole source of supply and owing to the faulty sub-strata cannot be made in many places.

Achhnerā.—Small town in *tahsīl* Kiraoli, District Agra, United Provinces, situated in 27° 10' N. and 77° 46' E. It lies on the road from Agra to Rājputāna, and is the junction of the Rājputāna-Mālwa, and Cawnpore-Achhnerā Railways. Population 5,375 (1901). The place first became of importance under the Jāts in the 18th century, and a British *tahsīl* was situated here from 1803 to 1832. It then declined, but has again prospered since it became a railway junction. Achhnerā is administered under Act XX of 1856 with an annual income of about Rs. 1,200. The trade is largely local, but there is a cotton gin which employed 130 hands in 1903. The town contains a primary school with 85 pupils.

Situation.

Agra City.—The administrative headquarters of the Agra District, United Provinces, situated on the right bank of the river Jumna, in 27° 10' N. and 78° 3' E., 8.13 miles by rail from Calcutta and 830 miles by rail from Bombay. The city is the fourth in size in the United Provinces and is growing rapidly in population: 1872, 149,008; 1881, 160,203; 1891, 168,622; 1901, 188,022. The figures include the population of the cantonments, which amounted to 22,011 in 1901. Hindus numbered 121,249 and Musalmāns, 57,760.

History.

Before the time of Akbar Agra had been a residence of the Lodi kings whose city, however, lay on the left or eastern bank of the Jumna. Traces of its foundations may still be noticed opposite the modern town, and a flourishing suburb has

grown up on part of the former site. Bābar occupied its old palace after his victory over Ibrāhīm Khān in 1526; and when a year later he defeated the Rājput forces near Fatehpur Sikri and securely established the Mughal supremacy, he took up his permanent residence at this place. He died at Agra in 1530; but his remains were removed to Kābul, so that no mausoleum preserves his memory here. His son, Humāyūn, was for a time driven out of the Ganges valley by Sher Shāh, the rebel Afghān governor of Bengal, and after his re-establishment on the throne he fixed his court at Delhi. Humāyūn was succeeded by his son, Akbar, the great organizer of the imperial system. Akbar removed the seat of government to the present Agra, which he founded on the right bank of the river, and built the fort in 1566. A second name of the city, Akbarābād, is still used by natives. Four years later he laid the foundations of Fatehpur Sikri, and contemplated making that town the capital of his empire, but was dissuaded apparently by the superior advantages of Agra, situated as it was on the great waterway of the Jumna. From 1570 to 1600 Akbar was occupied with his conquests to the south and east; but in 1601 he rested from his wars and returned to Agra, where he died four years later. During his reign the palaces in the fort were commenced, and the gates of Chitor were set up at Agra. Akbar had named Jahāngīr as his successor, who had to suppress an abortive attempt on the throne made by his own son, Khusrū. Jahāngīr built his father's mausoleum at Sikandra, and also erected the tomb of his father-in-law, Itimād-ud-daula, on the left bank of the river, as well as the portion of the palace in the fort known as the Jahāngīr Mahal. In 1618 he left Agra and never returned. Shāh Jahān was proclaimed emperor at Agra in 1628, and resided here from 1632 to 1637. It is to his reign that most of the great architectural works in the fort must be referred, though doubtless many of them had been commenced at an earlier date. The Motī Masjid, or Pearl Mosque, the Jāma Masjid, or Great Mosque, and the Khās Mahal were all completed under this magnificent emperor. The Tāj Mahal, generally allowed to be the most exquisite piece of Muhammadan architecture in the world, commemorates his wife, Mumtāz Mahal. In 1658 Shāh Jahān's third son, Aurangzeb, rebelled.

and deposed him; but the ex-emperor was permitted to live in imperial state, though in confinement, at Agra for seven years longer. After his death Agra sank for a while to the position of a provincial city, as Aurangzeb removed the seat of government permanently to Delhi. It had often to resist the attacks of the turbulent Jāts during the decline of the Mughals; and in 1763 it was actually taken by the Bharatpur forces under Sūraj Mal and the renegade, Walter Reinhardt, better known by his native name of Sumrū. In 1770 the Marāthās ousted the Jāts and were themselves driven out by the imperial troops under Najaf Khān four years later. Najaf Khān then resided in the city for many years with great state as imperial minister. After his death in 1779 Muhammad Beg was governor of Agra; and in 1784 he was besieged by the forces of the emperor Shāh Alam and Mādhuji Sindhiā, the Marāthā prince. Sindhiā took Agra, and held it till 1787, when he was in turn attacked by the imperial troops under Ghulām Kādir and Ismail Beg. The partisan, General de Boigno, raised the siege by defeating them near Fatehpur Sikri in June, 1788. Thenceforward the Marāthās held the fort till it was taken by Lord Lake in October 1803. From this time it remained a British frontier fortress, and in 1835, when the new presidency of Agra was founded, this city was chosen as the seat of Government, though the Board of Revenue and the principal courts remained at Allahābād till 1843, when they were moved to Agra. The British rule continued undisturbed until the Mutiny in 1857. News of the outbreak at Meerut reached Agra on the 11th of May, and the fidelity of the native soldiers at once became suspected. On the 30th of May two companies of Native Infantry belonging to the 44th and 67th Regiments, who had been despatched to Muttra to escort the treasure into Agra, proved mutinous, and marched off to Delhi. Next morning their comrades were ordered to pick up arms, and sullenly obeyed. Most of them then quickly retired to their own homes. The Mutiny at Gwalior took place on the 15th of June, and it became apparent immediately that the Gwalior contingent at Agra would follow the example of their countrymen. On the 3rd of July the Government found it necessary to retire into the fort. Two days later the Nimach and Nasirābād rebels advanced towards Agra, and were met by the small British force at

Sucheta. Our men were compelled to retire after a brisk engagement ; and the mob of Agra, seeing the English troops unsuccessful, rose at once, plundered the city, and murdered every Christian, European or native, upon whom they could lay their hands. The blaze of the bungalows was seen by our retreating troops even before they reached the shelter of the fort. The mutineers, however, moved on to Delhi without entering the town ; and on the 8th partial order was restored in Agra. During the months of July and August, the officials remained shut up in the fort, though occasional raids were made against the rebels in different directions. The Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces (John Colvin) was one of the officers thus shut up. He died during those months of trouble, and his tomb now forms a graceful specimen of Christian sculpture within the fort of the Mughals. After the fall of Delhi in September, the fugitives from that city, together with the rebels from Central India, unexpectedly advanced against Agra on the 6th October. Meanwhile, Colonel Greathed's column from Delhi entered the city without the knowledge of the mutineers. Neither force knew of the presence of the other till the attack took place, but the rebels were repulsed after a short contest, which completely broke up their array. Agra was immediately relieved from all danger, and the work of reconstituting the District went on unmolested. The provisional Government continued to occupy the former capital until February, 1858, when it removed to Allahābād, which was considered a superior military position. Since that time Agra has become for administrative purposes merely the headquarters of a Division and a District ; but the ancient capital still maintains its natural supremacy as the finest city of upper India, while the development of the railway system, of which it forms a great centre, is gradually restoring it to the commercial importance it once held.

The city of Agra stretches inland west and south from the Jumna, forming a roughly equilateral triangle, with its base running west from the river. The cantonments lie beyond the southern point, and include a large rectangular area. Most of the civil station is surrounded by portions of the native city, but the jails and Judge's court lie north of it. The bazars are better

Descrip-
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built than those in most towns in the Provinces, and contain a large proportion of stone houses. The Mughal buildings for which the place is famous lie on the edge of the city or some distance away. The Jāma Masjid or great mosque stands at the centre of the south-eastern face, separated from the river by the vast pile of buildings included in the fort. From the north angle of the fort the Jumna curves away to the east, and on its bank at a distance of a mile and a half rises the lovely marble building famous as the Tūj. The space between, which was formerly an unsightly stretch of ravines, is now occupied by the MacDonnell Park, commenced as a famine work in 1897, which occupies about 250 acres. The tomb of Itimād-ud-daula and the Chīnī-kā-rauza are situated on the left bank of the river; and the magnificent tomb of Akbar is at SIKANDRA, 5 miles north-west of Agra. The main building of the Jāma Masjid, 130 feet in length by 100 in breadth, is divided into three compartments, each of which opens on the courtyard by a fine archway, and is surmounted by a low dome built of white and red stone in oblique courses, and producing a somewhat singular, though pleasing, effect. The work has all the originality and vigour of the early Mughal style, mixed with many reminiscences of the Pathān school. The inscription over the main archway sets forth that the mosque was constructed by the emperor Shāh Jahān in 1644, after five years' labour. It was built in the name of his daughter, Jahānārā, who afterwards devotedly shared her father's captivity when he was deposed by Aurangzeb. This is the noble-hearted and pious princess, whose modest tomb lies near that of the poet Khusrū, outside Delhi. The splendid Jāma Masjid at Agra is the public memorial of this princess. Opposite to the Jāma Masjid, across an open square lies the fort, whose walls are 70 feet high, and a mile and a half in circuit; but as they are only faced with stone, and consist within of sand and rubble, they have no real strength, and would crumble at once before the fire of modern artillery. A drawbridge leads across the deep moat which surrounds the crenelated ramparts, and gives access through a massive gateway and up a paved ascent to the inner portal. The actual entrance is flanked by two octagonal towers of red sandstone, inlaid with ornamental designs in

The Jāma
Masjid.

The fort.

white marble; the passago between them being covered by two domes, and known as the Delhi gate. Within it beyond a bare space once occupied by a courtyard, lie the palace buildings, the first of which is known as the *Dīvān-i-ām*, or hall of public audience, formerly used as an armoury. It was built by Aurangzeb in 1685, and did duty as an imperial hall and court-house for the palace. The roof is supported by colonnades which somewhat impair the effect of the interior. This hall opens on a large court or tilt-yard; and while the emperor with his grantees sat in the open hall, the general public occupied three of the cloisters. A raised throne accommodated the sovereign, behind which a door communicated with the private apartments of the palace. The main range of buildings does not belong to Akbar's time, but was built by his son and grandson. The centre consists of a great court 500 feet by 370, surrounded by arcades and approached at opposite ends through a succession of corridors opening into one another. The *Dīvān-i-ām* is on one side, and behind it are two smaller enclosures, the one containing the *Dīvān-i-khās* and the other the harem. Three sides were occupied by the residences of the ladies, and the fourth by three white pavilions. The *Dīvān-i-khās*, or hall of private audience, consists of two corridors, 64 feet long, 34 feet broad, and 22 feet high, both built in 1637. It has been repaired in a spirit of fidelity to the original. The *Machchhī Bhawan*, or court between these and the *Dīvān-i-ām*, were probably built by Shāh Jahān. On the river-side of this court are two thrones, one of white marble and the other of black slate. The substructures of the palace are of red sandstone; but the corridors, rooms, and the pavilions are of white marble elaborately carved. Next to the *Dīvān-i-khās* comes the *Shish Mahal*, or Palace of Glass, which was an oriental bath adorned with thousands of small mirrors. To the south again lies a large red building called the *Jahāngīr Mahal*, with a fine two-storied façade and relieving lines of white marble; one of the inner courts is 70 feet square, and both are of red stone. Between them is a handsome entrance on pillars. The *Jahāngīr Mahal* presents some admirable examples of Hindu carving, with projecting brackets as supports to the broad eaves, and to the architraves between the pillars, which take the place

of arches. This Hindu form is adopted in the Jahāngir Mahal and in the neighbouring Saman Burj instead of the arch; and the ornamentation of the former is purely Hindu. The exquisite Moti Masjid, or Pearl Mosque, stands to the north of the Diwān-i-ām. It is raised on a lofty sandstone platform, and has three domes of white marble with gilded spires. The domes crown a corridor open towards the court and divided into three aisles by a triple row of Saracenic arches. The Pearl Mosque is 142 feet long by 56 feet high, and was built by Shāh Jahān in 1654. It is much larger than the Pearl Mosque at Delhi; and its pure white marble, sparingly inlaid with black lines, has an effect at once noble and refined. Only in the slabs composing the floor is colour employed—a delicate yellow inlaid into the white marble. There is, however, in the Agra Fort a second and much smaller Pearl Mosque, which was reserved for the private devotions of the emperors. This exquisite miniature house of prayer is entirely of the finest and whitest marble, without gilding or inlaying of any sort.

The Tāj. The Tāj Mahal with its beautiful domes, “a dream in marble,” rises on the river bank. It is reached from the fort by the Strand Road made in the famine of 1838, and adorned with stone *ghāts* by native gentlemen. The Tāj was erected as a mausoleum for the remains of Arjmand Bānū Begam, wife of the emperor Shāh Jahān, and known as Mumtāz Mahal or Exalted of the Palace. She died in 1629, and this building was set on foot soon after her death, though not completed till 1648. The materials are white marbles from Jaipur, and red sandstone from Fatehpur Sikri. The complexity of its design and the delicate intricacy of the workmanship baffle description. The mausoleum stands on a raised marble platform, at each of whose corners rises a tall and slender minaret of graceful proportions and exquisite beauty. Beyond the platform stretch the two wings, one of which is itself a mosque of great architectural merit. In the centre of the whole design, the mausoleum occupies a square of 136 feet, with the angles deeply truncated, so as to form an unequal octagon. The main feature of this central pile is the great dome, which swells upward to nearly two-thirds of a sphere, and tapers at its extremity into a pointed

spire, crowned by a crescent. Each corner of the mausoleum is covered by a similar though much smaller dome, erected on a pediment pierced with graceful Saracenic arches. Light is admitted into the interior through a double screen of pierced marble, which tempers the glare of an Indian sky, while its whiteness prevents the mellow effect from degenerating into gloom. The internal decorations consist of inlaid work in precious stones, such as agate and jasper, with which every spandril or other salient point in the architecture is richly fretted. Brown and violet marble is also freely employed in wreaths, scrolls, and lintels, to relieve the monotony of the white walls. In regard to colour and design the interior of the Tāj may rank first in the world for purely decorative workmanship; while the perfect symmetry of its exterior, once seen, can never be forgotten, nor the ærial grace of its domes, rising like marble bubbles into the clear sky.

The Tāj represents the most highly elaborated stage of ornamentation reached by the Indo-Muhammudan builders—the stage at which the architect ends and the jeweller begins. In its magnificent gateway the diagonal ornamentation at the corners which satisfied the designers of the gateways of the Itimād-ud-daula and Sikandra mausoleums is superseded by fine marble cables, in bold twists, strong and handsome. The triangular insertions of white marble and large flowers have in like manner given place to a fine inlaid work. Firm perpendicular lines in black marble, with well-proportioned panels of the same material, are effectively used in the interior of the gateway. On its top, the Hindu brackets and monolithic architraves of Sikandra are replaced by Moorish cusped arches, usually single blocks of red sandstone in the kiosks and pavilions which adorn the roof. From the pillared pavilions a magnificent view is obtained of the Tāj gardens below, with the noble Jumna river at their farther end, and the city and fort of Agra in the distance.

From this splendid gateway one passes up a straight alley, through a beautiful garden cooled by a broad shallow piece of water running along the middle of the path, to the Tāj itself. The Tāj is entirely of marble and gems. The red sandstone of other Muhammudan buildings has disappeared; or rather the

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red sandstone, where used to form the thickness of the walls, is in the Taj overlaid completely with white marbles; and the white marble is itself inlaid with precious stones arranged in lovely patterns of flowers. A feeling of purity impresses itself on the eye and the mind, from the absence of the coarser material which forms so invariable a material in Agra architecture. The lower walls and panels are covered with tulips, oleanders, and full-blown lilies, in flat carving on the white marble; and although the inlaid work of flowers, done in gems, is very brilliant when looked at closely, there is on the whole but little colour, and the all-prevailing sentiment is one of whiteness, silence, and calm. The whiteness is broken only by the fine colour of the inlaid gems, by lines in black marbles and by delicately written inscriptions, also in black, from the Korān. Under the dome of the vast mausoleum, a high and beautiful screen of open tracery in white marble rises round the two tombs, or rather cenotaphs,* of the emperor and his princess and in this marvel of marble, the carving has advanced from the old geometric patterns to a trellis-work of flowers and foliage, handled with great freedom and spirit. The two cenotaphs in the centre of the exquisite enclosure have no carving, except the plain *Kalam-dān*, or oblong pen-box, on the tomb of emperor Shāh Jahān. But both the cenotaphs are inlaid with flowers made of costly gems, and with the ever-graceful oleander scroll.

Tomb of
Itimād-
ud-daula.

The tomb of Itimād-ud-daula stands some distance from the left bank of the river. Itimād-ud-daula was the wazir or prime minister of the emperor Jahāngir, and his mausoleum forms one of the treasures of Indian architecture. The great gateway is constructed of red sandstone, inlaid with white marble, and freely employing an ornamentation of diagonal lines, which produce a somewhat unrestful Byzantine effect. The mausoleum itself in the garden looks from the gateway like a structure of marble filigree. It consists of two storeys; the lower one of marble, inlaid on the outside with coloured stones chiefly in geometrical patterns, diagonals, cubes, and stars. The numerous niches in the walls are decorated with enamelled paintings of vases and flowers. The principal entrance to the mausoleum is a marble arch, groined, and very

* The real tombs are in a vault below.

finely carved with flowers in low relief. In the interior painting or enamel is freely used for the roof and the dado of the walls; the latter is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, of fine white marble inlaid with coloured stones in geometrical patterns. The upper storey consists of pillars of white marble (also inlaid with coloured stones), and of a series of perforated marble screens stretching from pillar to pillar. The whole forms a lovely example of marble open filigree work.

In addition to the ordinary District offices, Agra contains ^{Officials.} some fine public buildings. Among these may be mentioned the three Colleges, the Roman Catholic Cathedral, and the Mission buildings, the Thomason Hospital, now one of the best equipped in the Provinces, and the Lady Lyall Hospital, the Central and District jails, and the Lunatic Asylum. Agra is the headquarters of the Commissioner of the Division, the Commissioner of Salt Revenue in Northern India, two Superintending Engineers in the Irrigation Branch, the Chemical Examiner to Government in the United Provinces, and an Inspector of Schools. The town was the earliest centre of missionary enterprise in northern India, for the Roman Catholic Mission was founded here in the 16th century, and in 1620 a Jesuit College was opened. Northern India was constituted an Apostolic Vicariate in 1822 with headquarters at Agra; but in 1886 Agra became the seat of an Archbishop appointed by the Holy See. The Baptist Mission here was founded in 1811 and the Church Missionary Society commenced work in 1813.

Agra was constituted a municipality in 1863. In ten ^{Municipality.} years ending 1901, the average income and expenditure were 3·3 lakhs, excluding the loan account. In 1903-04 the income was 5·3 lakhs, which included octroi, 2·4 lakhs; water-rate, Rs. 68,000; rents, Rs. 37,000; sale of water, Rs. 33,000; tolls, Rs. 35,000. The expenditure was 4·8 lakhs, including repayment of loans, 1·3 lakhs; conservancy, Rs. 70,000; water-supply and drainage (capital, Rs. 12,000; maintenance, Rs. 63,000); administration and collection, Rs. 50,000; roads and buildings, Rs. 24,000; and public safety Rs. 41,000. An attempt was made between 1884 and 1887 to obtain a water-supply from an artesian well, but was abandoned in favour of a supply from the

Jumna. The work commenced in 1889 and water was first supplied to the city in 1891. Many extensions and improvements have been made since, and loans amounting to nearly 16 lakhs have been taken from Government. In 1903 the daily consumption of filtered water was more than $9\frac{1}{2}$ gallons per head, and there were 811 house connections. About 27 miles of drains are flushed daily. The drainage system has long been recognised as defective owing to the small flow in the Jumna in the hot weather, and changes in its channels. An intercepting sewer is now (1904) being constructed at a cost of Rs. 89,000, which will discharge its contents below the city.

Cantonment.

The cantonment is ordinarily garrisoned by British and native infantry and by British artillery. Agra is also the headquarters of the Agra Volunteer Corps. The cantonment fund has an annual income and expenditure of over Rs. 60,000; a Cantonment Magistrate is stationed here.

Trade.

The trade of Agra has undergone considerable changes under British rule, the principal factors being the alteration in trade routes due to the extension of railways and changes in native fashions. It was formerly celebrated as a great centre through which sugar and tobacco passed to Rājputāna and Central India, while salt was received from Rājputāna, cotton and *ghi* were imported from the surrounding country, and stone was supplied from the quarries in the west of the District. There was also a considerable trade in grain, the direction of which varied according to the seasons. Agra has now become a great railway centre at which the East Indian and Great Indian Peninsula broad gauge lines and the narrow-gauge Rājputāna-Mālwa line meet, and these important functions of collection and distribution have increased and been added to. The recent opening of another broad-gauge line to Delhi will increase its trade still further. In addition to the products of the country, European piece-goods and metals are largely imported and distributed to the neighbouring towns and villages. Agra was also famous for its native arts and manufactures, gold and silver wire drawing, embroidery, silk weaving, calico printing, pipe stems, shoes, carving in marble and soapstone, inlaying of precious stones in marble, and the preparation of mill-stones, grinding-stones,

and stone mortars. Consequent on the growing preference for articles of European manufacture, the industries connected with embroidery, silk weaving, wire drawing, shoe making, and pipe stems have declined; and calico printing is little practised. On the other hand the trade in useful stone articles has prospered, and ornamental work has been fostered by the large sums spent in the restoration of the principal buildings and by the demand created by European visitors. And although some of the indigenous arts have become depressed, new industries have been created. In 1903 there were 6 cotton gins and presses employing 959 hands; and 3 cotton spinning mills with 1,562 workers and 30,000 spindles. The Agra Central jail has been noted for many years for the production of carpets, of which about 15,000 square yards are turned out annually, and a private factory also manufactures the same articles. A flour mill and a bone mill are also working. The total value of the annual rail-borne traffic of Agra is nearly 4 crores of rupees. The trade with the rest of the United Provinces amounts to nearly half of this, and that with Rājputāna and Central India to a quarter. Bombay has a larger share of the trade of this city than Calcutta.

Agra is one of the chief educational centres of the United Provinces. The Agra College was founded by Government in 1823, and endowed by a grant of land in 1831. In 1883 it was made over to a local committee, and now receives a grant of Rs. 7,000 from Government. In 1904 it contained 175 students in the arts classes, besides 45 in the law classes and 312 in the school department. The Roman Catholic College, St. Peter's, was founded in 1841, and is a school for Europeans and Eurasians, with 6 students reading in college classes in 1904. In 1850 the Church Missionary Society founded St. John's College, which in 1904 contained 128 students in college classes and 398 in the school. It also had a business department with 56 pupils and 5 branch schools with 350. The municipality maintains one school and aids 22 others with 1,756 pupils. In addition to these colleges and schools there are a normal school for teachers, and a medical school (founded in 1855) for training hospital assistants. The latter contained 260 pupils including candidates for employment under the Dufferin fund. There are about 20 printing presses, and 4 weekly and 6

monthly papers are published. Agra is noted as the birthplace of Abul Fazl, the historian of Akbar, and his brother, Faizi, a celebrated poet. It produced several distinguished authors of Persian and vernacular literature during the 19th century. Among these may be mentioned Mir Takī and Shaikh Walī Muhammad (Nazir). The poet, Asad-ullah Khān (Ghālib) resided at Agra for a time.

Batesar.—A village in *tahsīl* Bah, District Agra, United Provinces, situated in 26° 56' N. and 78° 33' E., at a bend of the Jumna, 41 miles south-east of Agra. Population 2,189 (1901). The place is celebrated for its fair, the largest in the District. Originally this was a religious festival, the great day being on the full moon of Kārtik (October-November), but it is now also celebrated as a cattle fair. Horses, cattle, camels, and even elephants are exhibited, and remounts for the native army and police are often bought here. For convenience a branch Government treasury is opened at the time of the fair. In 1904 the stock shown included 35,000 horses and ponies, 18,000 camels, 10,000 mules and donkeys, and 79,000 head of cattle, and about Rs. 13,000 were collected on account of bridge tolls, registration fees, and shop rents.

Fatehpur Sikri.—Notified area in *tahsīl* Kiraolī, District Agra, United Provinces, situated in 27° 5' N. and 77° 40' E., on a metalled road 23 miles west of Agra. Population 7,147 (1901). It was close to the village of Sikri that Bābar defeated the Rājput confederacy in 1527, and here on the ridge of sandstone rocks dwelt the saint Salīm Chishtī, who foretold to Akbar the birth of a son, afterwards Jahāngir. In 1569 Akbar commenced to build a great city called Fatehpur, and within 15 years a magnificent series of buildings had been erected. The city was abandoned as a royal residence soon after its completion, but was occupied for a short time in the 18th century by Muhammad Shāh, and Husain Ali Khān, the celebrated Saiyid general, was murdered near here in 1720. The site of Fatehpur Sikri is still surrounded on three sides by the great wall, about five miles long, built by Akbar; but most of the large space enclosed is no longer occupied by buildings. The modern town lies near the western end, partly on the level ground and partly on the slope of the ridge. It is a small, well-paved place, containing a dispensary and police-station.

From close by the highest houses in the twon, a splendid flight of steps leads up to the magnificent gateway, called the Buland Darwāza or lofty gate, which forms the entrance to the great quadrangle of the mosque, 350 feet by 440. In this stands the beautiful marble building containing the tomb of the saint Salīm Chishtī, the walls of which are elaborately carved. The sarcophagus itself is surrounded by a screen of lattice-work and a canopy inlaid with mother-of-pearl, which has recently been restored. Close by the northern wall of the mosque are the houses of Abul Fazl and Faizī, but the main block of the palace buildings lies some distance away to the north-east. On the west of this block is the large palace called after Jodh Bai, wife of Akbar. It consists of a spacious courtyard, surrounded by a continuous gallery, from which rise rows of buildings on the north and south, roofed with slabs of blue enamel. A lofty and richly-carved gate gives access to a terrace on which stand the so-called houses of Bīrbal and of the 'Christian lady.' The former is noticeable for its massive materials and the lavish minuteness of its detail. The 'Christian lady' was probably a Hindu wife. Beyond these buildings is another great courtyard divided into two parts. The southern half contains the private apartments of Akbar with the Khwābgāh, or sleeping place, and the lovely palace of the Turkish Sultāna. The latter is of sandstone richly carved with geometrical patterns and with hunting scenes. The Pānch Mahal or five-storied building, and the Diwān-i-khās or private audience chamber, are the principal structures in the northern portion. The Pānch Mahal consists of 5 galleries, one above another, and appears to have been copied from a Buddhist model. The Diwān-i-khās contains an enormous octagonal pillar, crowned by a circular capital, from which four galleries run to the corners of the room. According to tradition, Akbar used to hold his famous theological discussions in this place. Many of the buildings, and especially Miriam's house and the Khwābgāh, were adorned with paintings. These have largely perished or been destroyed; but the scheme of some has been recovered, and a few restorations have been made. The eastern front of the palace was formed by the Diwān-i-ām or public hall, close to which lay the baths on the south, and a great square called the mint on the north-east.

The palace buildings stand on the crest of the ridge and below them lies a depression which once formed a great lake. Beyond the lake stretched the royal park. The long descent from the *Dīwān-i-ām*, through the *Naubat-khāna* or entrance gate, to the Agra road, is flanked by confused masses of ruins, the remains of the bazars of the old city.

Fatehpur Sikri was a municipality from 1865 to 1904, and in 10 years ending 1901 the average income and expenditure were about Rs. 5,000, octroi supplying most of the income. In 1903-04 the income was Rs. 9,000 and the expenditure Rs. 10,000. The town has now been made a notified area. In the time of Akbar it was celebrated for its fabrics of hair and silk spinning, besides the skill of its masons and stone-carvers. At present cotton carpets and mill-stones are the chief products. There are two schools with about 100 pupils.

(E. W. Smith, *The Mughal Architecture of Fatehpur Sikri*, 4 Vols., 1894—98.)

Fīrozābād Town.—Municipality and headquarters of *tahsīl* of same name, District Agra, United Provinces, situated in 27° 9' N. and 78° 23' E. It lies on the road from Agra to Mainpurī, and on the East Indian Railway. Population 16,849 (1901). The town is old, but is said to have been destroyed and rebuilt in the 16th century by a eunuch, named Malik Fīroz, under the orders of Akbar, because Todar Mal was insulted by the inhabitants. Fīrozābād contains an old mosque and some temples, besides a dispensary, and branches of the American Methodist and Church Missionary Society. A municipality was constituted in 1869. In the 10 years ending 1901 the annual income and expenditure were about Rs. 14,000. The income in 1903-04 was Rs. 16,000, chiefly from octroi Rs. 12,000, and the expenditure Rs. 20,000. The trade of the place is chiefly local, but there is a cotton ginning factory employing about 100 hands. The municipality maintains a school and aids four others, with 190 pupils, besides the *tahsīl* school with about 80.

Itimādpur Town.—Headquarters town in the *tahsīl* of the same name, District Agra, United Provinces, situated in 27° 14' N. and 78° 12' E., on the main road from Agra to Mainpurī, and 2½ miles from the East Indian Railway junction

at TUNDLA. Population 5,322 (1901). The town is named after its founder, Itimād Khān, who built a large masonry tank here, and is said to have been a eunuch in the service of Akbar. It is administered under Act XX of 1856 with an annual income of about Rs. 900. Trade is purely local. The *tahsili* school contains about 180 pupils, and a primary girls' school, 16, and there is a branch of the American Methodist Mission.

Sikandra.—A village in the Agra District and *tahsil*, United Provinces, situated in 27° 13' N. and 77° 57' E., 5 miles north-west of Agra on the Muttra road. Population 1,618 (1901). The village is said to have received its name from Sikandar Lodī, who built a palace here in 1495, which now forms part of the orphanage. Jahāngīr's mother, who died at Agra in 1623, is buried here; but the place is chiefly famous for the tomb of Akbar, which was built by Jahāngīr, and completed in 1612-13. It stands in a spacious garden of 150 acres, surrounded by massive walls with gateways in the middle of each side. The entrance is by a gateway of magnificent proportions, with four lofty minarets of white marble. The building is of unusual design, and according to Fergusson was probably copied from a Hindu or Buddhist model. It consists of a series of four square terraces placed one above the other, and gradually decreasing in size. The lowest is 320 feet square and 30 feet high, and has a large entrance adorned with marble mosaic. Above the highest of these four terraces, which are chiefly of sandstone, stands a white marble enclosure, 157 feet square, the outer wall of which is composed of the most beautifully carved screens. The space within is surrounded by cloisters of marble, and paved with the same material. In the centre is the marble cenotaph of the great emperor, a perfect example of the most delicate arabesque tracery, among which may be seen the ninety-nine beautiful names of God. Finch, after describing his visit to the tomb in 1609, says that the intention was to cover this upper enclosure with a marble dome lined with gold. The Church Missionary Society has an important branch at Sikandra, with a church built in 1843, and an orphanage established after the famine of 1837-38, which contains about 409 boys and girls, largely famine waifs. In

addition to ordinary literary subjects, some of the children are taught cloth and carpet weaving, book-binding, printing, and other trades.

Tündla.—A village in *tahsīl* Itimādpur, District Agra, United Provinces, situated in $27^{\circ} 13' N.$ and $78^{\circ} 14' E.$; population 3,044 (1901). It is the junction for Agra on the main line of the East Indian Railway, and is an important railway centre. The Railway Medical Officer residing here is usually invested with magisterial powers to try petty cases, and there is a church with a resident clergyman. The town is administered under Act XX of 1856, with an annual income of about Rs. 500.

Bound-
aries,
configura-
tion, and
river
system.

Farrukhābād District.—The most eastern District of the Agra Division, United Provinces, lying between $26^{\circ} 47'$ and $27^{\circ} 43' N.$ and $79^{\circ} 8'$ and $80^{\circ} 1' E.$, with an area of 1,685 square miles. On the north the Ganges divides the District from Budaun and Shāhjāhānpur; on the east lies the Oudh District of Hardoi which is partly separated by the Ganges; Cawnpore and Etāwah lie to the south, and Mainpurī and Etah to the west. The greater part of the District lies in the DOAB along the right bank of the Ganges, but the Aligarh *tahsīl* lies wholly on the opposite bank. The former division consists of an upland area, called *bāngar*, and a lowlying tract called *tarāi*, *katrī* or *kachohā*. The lowlands stretch from the present bed of the Ganges to the old high bank, with a breadth of 6 miles in the north of the District. At Farrukhābād the river is at present close to its high bank, but further south it diverges again to a distance of 4 miles. The tract across the Ganges is entirely composed of lowlying land subject to floods, which cover almost the whole area. The uplands are divided into a series of small *doābs* by the rivers known as Bagār, Kālī Nadi (East), Isan, Arind, and Pāndū, which flow roughly parallel to each other and join the Ganges. These divisions are generally similar. On each bank of the rivers is a small area of alluvial soil from which rise sandy slopes. The soil gradually improves, becoming less sandy, and the central portion is good loam, with here and there patches of barren land called *ūsar*, often covered with saline efflorescences. The most northern division from the old high bank to the Bagār is the poorest. Besides

the small rivers already mentioned, the Rāmgangā flows through part of the Aligarh *tahsīl*, and an old channel of the Ganges, called the Būrhgangā, lies between the high bank and the present bed of the river in the north of the District. Shallow lakes or *jāls* are common in the Kaimganj, Aligarh, Chhibrāmau, and Tirwā *tahsīls*.

The flora of the District presents no peculiarity. The Botany. principal groves, which cover 55 square miles, are of mango trees, and the District is uniformly though not thickly wooded. The toddy palm is commoner than in the neighbouring Districts. In the alluvial tract *babūl* is the commonest tree. In the uplands there are considerable stretches of *dhāk* (*Butea frondosa*) jungle. Some damage has been done in the sandy tracts by the spread of a grass called *kāns* (*Saccharum spontaneum*).

The District consists entirely of Gangetic alluvium. *Kan-* Geology. *kar* is the chief mineral product, but saline efflorescences (*reh*) are also found.

Antelope are still fairly common and *nīlgai* (*Portax pictus*) Fauna. are occasionally seen. Jackals, hyenas, wolves, and foxes are also found, and the wild pig is very common. Snipe and duck abound in the cold weather. Fish are common in the rivers and small tanks and are largely used as food. Alligators are found in the Ganges and Kālī Nadi.

Farrukhābād is one of the healthiest Districts in the Doāb. Climate and temperature. Its general elevation is considerable, the climate is dry, and the country is remarkably free from epidemics. The trans-Gangetic *parganas* are, however, damper and more feverish, though they are cool in summer. The mean temperature varies from about 58° in January to about 95° in June.

The average rainfall of the District is about 33 inches. Rainfall. Variations from year to year are considerable, but the fall is very uniform over the District.

The northern part of the District was included in the ancient History. kingdom of PANCHALA mentioned in the Mahābhārata and places are still connected by tradition with episodes in the life of Draupadi, wife of the Pāndava brothers. Numerous remains of the Buddhist period point to the importance of several towns early in the Christian era. In the 4th and 5th centuries Kanauj was

included in the domains of the great Gupta emperors, and when the power of that dynasty declined, in the 6th century, a petty independent line of Maukharī kings ruled here. The Maukharis fell before the kings of Mālṡā, who in turn were defeated by the ruler of Thānesar in the Punjab. Harshavardhana of Thānesar, early in the 7th century, founded a great empire in northern India, and Hiuen Tsiang, the Chinese pilgrim, describes the magnificence of his court.* The empire collapsed at Harshavardhana's death, but inscriptions and copperplates tell of other dynasties ruling at Kanauj in later years. At the end of 1018, when Mahmūd of Ghazni crossed the Jumna, the Rājputs were in power at Kanauj, and had to submit to the sudden shock of Muslim invaders. Although Kanauj was plundered, the expedition was a mere raid, and Rāthors ruled it for nearly 200 years longer. In 1194, however, Muhammad Ghori defeated the last great Rājā, Jai Chand, and Hindu rule in the central parts of the Provinces was practically at an end. During the early years of Muhammadan rule Kanauj was the seat of a governor, and the District was constantly the scene of revolt. At the end of the 14th century part of it was incorporated in the new kingdom of Jaunpur, while Kanauj became the residence of Mahmūd Tughlak when he lost the throne of Delhi. During the first 80 years of the 15th century the District suffered much from the struggle between Delhi and Jaunpur, but in 1479 was finally restored to the empire. While the Mughal power was gradually being consolidated in the 16th century, and during the struggle with the Pathāns which led to the establishment of the short-lived Sūri dynasty, fighting was frequent, and in 1540 Humāyūn suffered a disastrous defeat near Kanauj. Under the great Mughal emperors the District enjoyed comparative peace, but early in the 18th century it became the nucleus of one of the independent States which arose as the Mughal empire crumbled away. The founder was Muhammad Khān, a Bangash Afghān belonging to a village near Kaimganj. He brought 12,000 men to Farrukh Siyar in his fight for the throne and was rewarded by a grant in Bundelkhand. In 1714 he obtained a grant near his own home and founded the city of Farrukhabād. Muhammad

* Beal, *Buddhist Records of the Western World*, I, page 206; see also Bana's *Harsa Charita*.

Khān was governor of the Province of Allāhābād for a time, and later of Mālwa, but his chief services were rendered as a soldier. At his death in 1743 he held most of the present Farrukhābād, Mainpurī, and Etah Districts, with parts of Cawnpore, Aligarh, Etāwah, Budaun, and Shāhjahanpur. His son, Kaim Khān, was craftily embroiled with the Rohillas by Safdar Jang, Nawāb of Oudh, and lost his life near Budaun in 1749. The Farrukhābād domains were formally annexed to Oudh, but were recovered in 1750 by Ahmad Khān, another son of the first Nawāb, who defeated and slew Rājā Nawal Rai, the Oudh governor. Safdar Jang called in the Marāthās, who besieged Ahmad Khān in the fort at Fatehgarh near Farrukhābād, and drove off the Rohillas who had come to the aid of the Musalmāns. Ahmad Khān had to fly to the foot of the Himālayas, and in 1752 was allowed to return after ceding half his possessions to the Marāthās. In 1761 he did good service to Ahmad Shāh Durrāni at Pānīpat, when the Marāthās suffered a crushing defeat, and Ahmad Khān regained much of his lost territory. The recovery embroiled him with Shujā-ud-daula, the Nawāb of Oudh, who coveted the tract for himself; but Ahmad was too strong to be attacked. In 1771 the Marāthās again recovered the *parganas* which had been granted to them, and shortly afterwards Ahmad Khān died. His territory then became tributary to Oudh. In 1777 British troops were stationed at Fatehgarh as part of the brigade which guarded Oudh, and from 1780 to 1785 a British resident was posted here. The latter act was one of the charges against Warren Hastings, who had engaged to withdraw the Resident. In 1801 the Oudh government ceded to the British its lands in this District, and also the tribute paid by the Nawāb of Farrukhābād while the latter gave up his sovereign rights in 1802. Two years later Holkar raided the Doāb, but was caught by Lord Lake after a brilliant night march and his force cut to pieces close to Farrukhābād City.

From the period of its passage under a firm and regular government, the District remained free from historical events up to the date of the Mutiny. News of the outbreak at Meerut reached Fatehgarh on the 14th of May, 1857; and another week brought tidings of its spread to Aligarh. The 10th Native Infantry showed symptoms of a mutinous spirit on the 29th of

May; but it was not till the 3rd of June that a body of Oudh insurgents crossed the Ganges, and arranged for a rising on the following day. The European officials and residents abandoned Fatehgarh the same evening; but several of them returned a few days later, and remained till the 18th, when another outbreak occurred, and the rebels placed the Nawāb of Farrukhābād on the throne. The 41st Native Infantry, from Sitāpur, marched into Fatehgarh, and the Europeans began to strengthen the fort. On the 25th the rebels attacked their position, which became untenable by the 4th July. The fort was then mined, and its defenders escaped in boats. The first Fatehgarh boat reached Cawnpore, where all its fugitives were murdered by the Nāna on 10th July; the second boat was stopped 10 miles down the Ganges, and all in it were captured or killed except three. The Nawāb governed the District unopposed till the 23rd of October, when he was defeated by the British at Kanauj. Our troops passed on, however, and the Nawāb, with Bukht Khān of Bareilly, continued in the enjoyment of power until Christmas. On the 2nd of January 1858, our forces crossed the Kālī Nālī and took Fatehgarh next day. The Nawāb and Fīroz Shāh fled to Bareilly. Brigadier Hope defeated the Budaun rebels at Shamsābād on the 18th of January, and Brigadier Seaton routed another body on the 7th of April. In May, a force of 3,000 Bundelkhand insurgents crossed the District, and besieged Kainganj; but they were soon driven off into the last rebel refuge, in Oudh, and order was not again disturbed.

Archæo-
logy.

The ancient sites in the District are numerous. SANKISA has been identified with a great city mentioned by Hiuen Tsiang, and from KAMPIL westwards are mounds which contain a buried city. The buildings of the Hindu and Buddhist periods have, however, crumbled away, or as at KANAUJ been used as the material for mosques. The buildings of the Nawābs of Farrukhābād are not important.

The
people.

There are 8 towns and 1,689 villages in the District. Population decreased between 1872 and 1881 owing to famine, and in the next decade owing to deterioration due to floods; it has risen with the return of more favourable seasons: 1872, 917,178; 1881, 907,608; 1891, 858,687; 1901, 925,812. There are six *tahsils*, KANAUJ, TIRWA, CHHIBRAMAU, FARRUKHABAD, KAINGANJ,

and ALIGARH, the headquarters of each being at a town of the same name, except in the case of Kanauj, the headquarters of which are at Sarai Mirān. The chief towns are the municipality, which includes FARRUKHABAD and FATEHGARH, and KANAUJ.

The following table gives the principal statistics of population in 1901:—

<i>Tahsil.</i>	Area in square miles.	Number of —		Population.	Population per square mile.	Percentage of variation in population between 1891 and 1901.	Number of persons able to read and write.
		Towns.	Villages.				
Kanauj ...	181	1	206	114,215	631	— 2·6	4,157
Tirwā ...	380	2	256	180,086	474	+ 6·3	3,529
Chhībrāmau ...	240	2	240	126,705	528	+ 12·3	3,204
Farrukhābād ...	339	1	387	250,352	739	+ 2·2	12,206
Kaimganj ...	363	2	397	168,606	464	+ 14·8	3,061
Aligarh ...	182	...	203	85,848	472	+ 14·7	2,059
Total ...	1,685	8	1,689	925,812	549	+ 7·8	28,216

Hindus include 88 per cent. of the population, and Musalmāns 12 per cent. There are only 1,100 Christians. The density of population is rather higher than the Provincial average, and between 1891 and 1901 the rate of increase was comparatively large. More than 99 per cent. of the population speak Western Hindi of the Kanaujia dialect.

The following are the most numerous Hindu castes: Kisāns (cultivators akin to the Lodhas of other Districts; 94,000), Chamārs (leather workers and labourers; 93,000); Ahīrs (graziers and cultivators; 89,000), Brāhmans, 76,000; Thākurs or Rājputs, 73,000; and Kāchhīs (cultivators; 70,000). Kurmīs (28,000) are also important for their skill and industry in agriculture. The only caste peculiar to the District is that of the Sādhās, most of whom are cotton-printers by trade; they are distinguished by belonging to a special sect of Hinduism, which does not recognise the worship of idols or the supremacy of the Brāhman. The District is notable for the large number of Muhammadans of fairly pure foreign origin; Pathāns number

34,700, Shaikhs, 29,800, Saiyids, 5,800; and the most numerous artizan caste is that of the Dhunas or cotton-carders, 7,100. As many as 61 per cent. of the population are supported by agriculture, which is a high proportion. Rājputs hold two-fifths of the District and Brāhmans and Musalmāns nearly one-fifth each. Ahīrs, Kisāns, Rājputs, Brāhmans, Kāchhis, and Kurmis hold the largest areas as cultivators.

Christian
Missions.

The American Presbyterian Mission was founded in 1838, and 489 out of the 699 native Christians in the District in 1901 were Presbyterians. Many of them reside in the village of Rakha near Fatehgarh, which was held by the Mission on lease for 60 years.

General
agricul-
tural con-
ditions.

The soil of the District varies from sand to fertile loam and stiff clay, which ordinarily produces rice. Each of the four watersheds between the small rivers which divide the uplands is generally composed of good loam, with occasional patches of sandy soil, and some large *ūsar* plains, the soil near which is clay. The slopes to the rivers are usually sandy, and these and the lowlands near the Ganges and the Aligarh *tahsīl* are precarious tracts, especially liable to suffer from excessive rain, which cause a rank growth of coarse grasses. On the whole the Rāmgaṅgā deposits a more fertile silt than the Ganges.

Chief
agricul-
tural sta-
tistics
and prin-
cipal
crops.

The District is held on the usual tenures of the United Provinces. Out of 3,563 *mahāls*, 2,432 are *zamīndārī*, 1,046 *pattīdārī*, and 85 *bhaiyāchūrā*. A few estates are held on a *talukdārī* tenure. The principal statistics for 1903-04 are shown below, in square miles :—

<i>Tahsīl.</i>	Total.	Cultivated.	Irrigated.	Culturable waste.
Kanauj ...	181	124	43	21
Tirwā ...	380	197	101	76
Chhibrāmau ...	240	160	64	29
Farrukhābād ...	339	223	81	51
Rāmgaṅj ...	303	226	72	70
Aligarh ...	182	111	17	33
Total ...	1,685	1,041	378	280

The main food crops, with the area sown in 1903-04, are : wheat (326 square miles), barley (191), *jowār* (140), and *gram* (93) ; less important crops, which are largely grown, are maize (87), *bājra* (102), and *arhar* (72). Rice is chiefly grown in the outlying village lands, and is of poor quality except in the Tirwā *tahsīl*. Cotton occupied 19 square miles and sugarcane 21 ; but neither crop is very important, and the most valuable miscellaneous crops are opium (47 square miles), tobacco (8), and potatoes (7). The tobacco of the Kaimganj *tahsīl* has a more than local reputation, as it is irrigated with brackish water, which improves the flavour. *Bhang* (*Cannabis sativa*) is cultivated in a few villages.

Cultivation has slightly decreased in area during the last 30 years, but has intensified in quality. The District is noted for its high standard of cultivation, chiefly in the hands of the Kurmis and Kāohīs. The best land bears three crops in a year ; maize in the rains, potatoes in the cold weather, and tobacco in the spring. The two latter crops require rich manuring and plentiful irrigation, and are thus largely grown near towns. The cultivation of the tracts near Farrukhābād and Kaimganj can hardly be equalled in the Provinces. Loans under the Agriculturists' Loans Act were taken freely during adverse seasons, and amounted to 1·3 lakhs between 1891 and 1900 ; but have now dropped to about Rs. 2,000 a year. The amounts advanced under the Land Improvement Act are still smaller. Drainage works have been carried out in many parts of the District with good results.

There is no indigenous breed of cattle, and all the best animals are imported. Attempts to improve the breed have had no result so far. The ponies of the District are also inferior. Sheep and goats are bred locally and are also imported from beyond the Jumna.

The north and south of the District are fairly well supplied by canal irrigation from branches of the Lower Ganges canal, and a third branch irrigates a small area in the centre. Wells, however, are the principal source of irrigation and in 1903-04 supplied 223 miles, while canals only served 105. The *jhils* and rivers are used to an appreciable extent, and served 38 and 12 square miles respectively. Water is generally raised

from wells in a leathern bucket worked by oxen, but in the *tarai* the lever (*dhenkli*) is used. In the case of *jhāls* and rivers a closely-woven basket swung on ropes held by 2 or 4 men is the common form of lift.

Minerals. *Kankar* is the only form of stone found, and it occurs in many parts of the District, both in block and nodular forms. Saltpetre is manufactured to a considerable extent and exported.

Arts and Manufactures. Farrukhābād and Kanauj are celebrated for cloth printing applied to curtains, quilts, table covers, and the like; but the industry is languishing at Kanauj. A European demand for the articles produced in Farrukhābād has recently sprung up. Farrukhābād is also a considerable centre for the manufacture of gold lace and of brass and copper vessels. Tents are made in the central jail and by several private firms, and Kanauj is noted for the production of scent. There are a few indigo factories in the District, but the manufacture is declining. A flour mill has recently been opened. The Government gun carriage factory employed 795 hands in 1903, but has undertaken no new work since the completion of the Jubbulpore factory.

Commerce. The chief exports are: tobacco, opium, potatoes, fruit, *bhāng*, saltpetre, cotton prints, scent, and brass and copper vessels, while the imports include grain, piece-goods, salt, timber, and metals. Tobacco, scent, and mangoes are largely exported to Central India and to Rājputāna. The rest of the trade is chiefly local, and is carried on at small markets. Up to 1881 the want of railway communication affected the commerce of the District, which has revived considerably since.

Railways and Roads. Farrukhābād is fairly well supplied by means of communication except in the Aligarh *tahsīl*, which is often flooded. The Cawnpore-Achhnerā Railway passes through the length of the District near the Ganges, and a branch of the East Indian Railway from Shikohābād is under construction. There are 142 miles of metalled roads, all of which are maintained by the Public Works department; the cost of half of these is, however, local, and 868 miles of unmetalled roads are also maintained by the District board. Avenues have been established along 118 miles. The Grand trunk road passes through the southern half of the District with a branch to Farrukhābād, which is continued to

Shāhjahānpur and Bareilly. Another road gives communication with the north of the District.

The famine of 1783 doubtless affected this District, though *Famine* it is not specially referred to in the accounts. In subsequent famines Farrukhābād suffered most in 1803-04, 1815-16, 1825-26, and 1837-38. In the latest of these, relief works on the modern system were started, especially on the Grand trunk road. Distress was intense, and Brāhmans were seen disputing the possession of food with dogs, while mothers sold their children. Expenditure from Government funds amounted to 1·8 lakhs, and 6 lakhs of revenue were remitted. There was not much distress in 1860-61 or 1868-70; but in 1877-78 scarcity was severely felt. The southern part of the District was the most precarious, and this is now the portion best protected by canals. In 1896-97 there was some distress; but it was not severe, and population increased, except in the Kanauj *tahsīl*.

Besides the Collector the District staff usually includes one *District staff* member of the Indian Civil Service and 4 Deputy Collectors recruited in India. There is a *tahsildār* at the headquarters of each *tahsīl*. Other officials include an Executive Engineer of the Canal department, two opium officers, a salt officer, and the Superintendent of the District and central jails.

Civil work is disposed of by 3 District Munsiffs, a Sub-Judge, Civil and a District Judge who also hears Sessions cases. Crime is of the ordinary nature, but the District is subject to outbreaks of *Justice and Crime* dacoity. Female infanticide was formerly very common, but few households are now under surveillance. Opium is largely grown in the District, and small portions of the drug are often kept back by the cultivators for their private use or illicit sale.

The District was acquired in 1801 and 1802, and was at first administered by an Agent to the Governor-General; but a *Land Revenue administration* Collector was appointed in 1806. Early settlements were for short periods, and the collection of revenue gave much trouble, owing to the turbulence of the people, especially east of the Ganges. The first regular settlement was made about 1837, the demand being fixed at 12·9 lakhs; but this was reduced in 1845 by 1·4 lakhs owing to the effects of the famine of 1838. The next revision was made between 1866 and 1875, and is noteworthy for the improvements in procedure introduced by Mr. (now Sir

Charles) Elliott, whose methods were copied in other Districts. The assessment was made on a valuation of the assets calculated by ascertaining standard rates for different classes of soil from rates actually paid. Each village was divided for this purpose into tracts of similar soil, instead of each field being separately classified. The estimated assets were also checked by comparison with the actual rent-rolls. The revenue assessed was 12.5 lakhs. In the precarious tracts liable to flooding the demand broke down, and in 1890-92 reductions amounting to Rs. 62,000 were made. The latest revision was carried out between 1899 and 1903. Revenue was assessed on actual rent-rolls, checked and corrected, where necessary, by standard rates, and during settlement rents were enhanced by Rs. 63,000. About two-thirds of the tenants' holdings are protected by occupancy rights. The new demand amounts to 12.2 lakhs, which represents 49 per cent. of the net assets. The settlement was thus practically a redistribution, and the deteriorated tracts have been assessed lightly. The incidence of revenue amounts to R. 1-4-0 per acre varying from R. 1-5-0 in the high land to 8 annas in the alluvial tract. The total collections on account of land revenue and total revenue have been, in thousands of rupees :—

		1880-81.	1890-91.	1900-01.	1903-04.
Land revenue	...	12,29,	11,19,	11,59,	12,18,
Total revenue	...	15,54,	17,06,	18,74,	19,72,

Local self-
government.

Besides the single municipality of FARRUKHABAD *cum* FATEHGARH, there are 7 towns administered under Act XX of 1856. Outside these, local affairs are under the District board, which had an income of 1.3 lakhs in 1903-04, chiefly derived from local rates. Expenditure was 1.5 lakhs, of which Rs. 81,000 were spent on roads and buildings.

Police and
Jails.

There are 18 police-stations and one outpost in the District. The Superintendent of Police had a force of 4 inspectors, 82 subordinate officers, and 410 constables in 1904, besides 230 municipal and town police, and 2,100 village and road police. At Fatehgarh there is a central jail besides the ordinary District jail.

The District takes a medium position in the Provinces as regards education, and only 3 per cent. (5.4 males and 4 females) of the population could read and write in 1901. The number of public schools fell from 184 in 1880-81 to 156 in 1900-01; but the number of scholars rose from 5,294 to 7,271. In 1903-04 there were 233 public schools with 9,383 pupils, of whom 672 were girls, besides 41 private schools with 457 pupils. Four schools are managed by Government and 128 by the District or municipal boards. The total expenditure in the same year was Rs. 55,000, of which Rs. 37,000 were met from local funds, and Rs. 11,000 from fees.

There are 9 hospitals and dispensaries with accommodation for 112 in-patients. In 1903, 52,000 cases were treated, including 1,900 in-patients, and 4,500 operations were performed. The total expenditure was Rs. 14,500, chiefly met from local funds.

About 22,300 persons were successfully vaccinated in 1903-04, representing 24 per 1,000 of the population—a small proportion. Vaccination is only compulsory in the municipality and cantonment of Farrukhābād and Fatehgarh.

(W. Irvine, *The Bangash Nawābs of Farrukhābād*, Journal of the Bengal Asiatic Society, 1878, page 260; *District Gazetteer*, 1884 [under revision]; H. J. Hoare, *Settlement Report*, 1903.)

Kanauj Tahsil (Kannauj).—South-eastern *tahsil* of Farrukhābād District, United Provinces, conterminous with the *pargana* of the same name, and lying along the Ganges, between 26° 56' and 27° 12' N. and 79° 43' and 80° 1' E., with an area of 181 square miles. Population decreased from 117,229 in 1891 to 114,215 in 1901. There are 206 villages and one town KANAUJ, population 18,552. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 1,95,000 and for cesses Rs. 31,000. The density of population, 631, is above the District average. The *tahsil* consists of two parts, the uplands or *bāngar*, and the lowlands near the Ganges or *kachokā*, the former covering the larger area. The Kālī Nadi (East) crosses the *tahsil* and joins the Ganges. In 1903-04 the area cultivated was 124 square miles, of which 43 were irrigated. Irrigation is supplied almost entirely from wells, and the tract is liable to suffer in dry seasons. This was the only *tahsil* in the District which lost in population between 1891 and 1901.

Tirwā Tahsil.—Southern *tahsil* of Farrukhābād District, United Provinces, comprising the *parganas* of Tirwā, Saurikh, Sakatpur, and Sakrāwā, and lying between 26° 49' and 27° 5' N. and 79° 19' and 79° 58' E., with an area of 380 square miles. The *tahsil* is bounded on the north by the Isan, and the Arind and Pāndu rivers form part of its southern boundary. Population increased from 168,673 in 1891 to 180,086 in 1901. There are 256 villages and two towns, the larger being TIRWĀ, the *tahsil* headquarters; population 5,763. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 2,53,000 and for cesses Rs. 45,000. The density of population, 474 to the square mile, is lower than the District average. The *tahsil* consists of a central table land of fertile loam, through the centre of which passes the Cawnpore branch of the Lower Ganges Canal, flanked by sandy tracts sloping down to the rivers north and south. North of this are found numerous swamps and small lakes, but drainage operations have improved this area considerably. Rice is grown more extensively in this *tahsil* than elsewhere in the District. In 1903-04, out of 197 square miles cultivated, 101 were irrigated, canals and wells supplying an equal area. Tanks and small streams supply 7 or 8 square miles.

Chhibrāmau Tahsil.—South central *tahsil* of Farrukhābād District, United Provinces, comprising the *parganas* of Chhibrāmau and Tālgrām, and lying between 26° 58' and 27° 14' N. and 79° 23' and 79° 47' E., with an area of 240 square miles. The *tahsil* is bounded by the rivers Kālī Nadi (East) and Ganges on the north, and Isan on the south. Population increased from 111,114 in 1891 to 126,705 in 1901. There are 240 villages and two towns, CHHIBRAMAU, the *tahsil* headquarters, population 6,526, and TALGRAM, (5,457). The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 1,90,000 and for cesses Rs. 32,000. The density of population, 528 to the square mile, is almost the same as the District average. In the centre of the *tahsil* there is a level stretch of fertile loam, crossed from north to south in the west by a ridge of sandy soil, and with sandy slopes approaching the alluvial soil on the banks of the rivers. The eastern portion is remarkable for the large area covered by swamps and lakes. Out of 160 square miles cultivated in 1903-04 the irrigated area was 64 square miles. The Bewar branch of the Lower

Ganges Canal supplies about 14 square miles in the west of the *tahsil*, and wells supply most of the remaining irrigated area, but tanks irrigate 4 or 5 square miles. The *tahsil* contains several villages in which *bhang* (Indian hemp) is cultivated.

Farrukhābād Tahsil.—Headquarters *tahsil* of Farrukhābād District, United Provinces, comprising the *parganas* of Bhojpur, Muhammadābād, Pahāra, and Shamsābād East, and lying between 27° 9' and 27° 28' N. and 79° 15' and 79° 44' E., with an area of 339 square miles. The *tahsil* is bounded on the east by the Ganges and on the south by the Kālī Nadi (East). Population increased from 244,896 in 1891 to 250,352 in 1901. There are 387 villages and one town, FARRUKHABAD with FATEHGARH, the *tahsil* and District headquarters; population 67,338. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 2,55,000 and for cesses Rs. 48,000. The density of population, 739 to the square mile, is the highest in the District. Excepting a small tract of alluvial land near the Ganges the whole area lies on the uplands, sloping down on the south to the basin of the Kālī Nadi. Through the north-east corner flows the small river Bagār, whose bed has been deepened and straightened to improve the drainage. Immediately above the Ganges, and especially round Farrukhābād and Fatehgarh lies some of the finest cultivation in the District, a treble crop of maize, potatoes, and tobacco being raised. Fine groves of mango trees produce a plentiful supply of fruit which is largely exported. The cultivated area was 223 square miles in 1903-04, of which 81 were irrigated. The Fatehgarh branch of the Lower Ganges Canal supplies a small area, but wells are the chief source of irrigation.

Kaimganj Tahsil.—North-western *tahsil* of Farrukhābād District, United Provinces, comprising the *parganas* of Kampil and Shamsābād West, and lying along the southern bank of the Ganges, between 27° 21' and 27° 43' N. and 79° 8' and 79° 37' E., with an area of 363 square miles. Population increased from 143,557 in 1891 to 168,606 in 1901. There are 397 villages and 2 towns, KAIMGANJ, the *tahsil* headquarters, population 10,369, and SHAMSABAD, 8,375. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 2,10,000 and for cesses Rs. 36,000. The density of population, 464 to the square mile, is low for this District. Kaimganj contains a larger

tract of lowland than any *tahsīl* in the District except Aligarh; but the greater part of it is situated in the uplands. The Bagār river winds through the southern portion, and on either bank stretches a wide expanse of sandy land, which extends on the north to near Kampil. North and west of this is a belt of fine yellowish loam, tilled by Kurmis, and famous for its sugarcane, and near the towns of Kampil, Kaimganj, and Shamsābād for the tobacco which acquires a special flavour from the brackish water found in the wells. The cultivated area amounted to 226 square miles in 1903-04, and the irrigated area to 72. The Fatehgarh branch of the Lower Ganges Canal supplies irrigation through the centre of the uplands and the area irrigated by canals is slightly larger than that supplied by wells. There are several considerable swamps from which water is also taken, but a good deal has been done to improve the drainage of the *tahsīl*.

Aligarh Tahsīl.—The north-eastern *tahsīl* of Farrukhābād District, United Provinces, comprising the *parganas* of Amritpur, Paramnagar, and Khākhatmau, and lying between 27° 14' and 27° 40' N. and 79° 32' and 79° 45' E., with an area of 182 square miles. The *tahsīl* lies along the left bank of the Ganges. Population increased from 73,218 in 1891 to 85,848 in 1901. There are 203 villages, but no town. Aligarh, the *tahsīl* headquarters, is a small village. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 1,18,000 and for cesses Rs. 19,000. The density of population, 472 to the square mile, is low for this District. The *tahsīl* is a damp alluvial tract, crossed by the Rāmgaṅgā, which has an erratic course changing almost every year. After heavy rains a large portion of the tract is under water, and several channels connect the Ganges and the Rāmgaṅgā. The area cultivated in 1903-04 was 111 square miles, of which 17 were irrigated. The wells are usually small shallow pits from which water is raised in an earthen pot tied to a lever (*dhenkli*). Where floods are not feared, sugarcane and poppy are largely grown.

Chhibrāman Town.—Headquarters town of *tahsīl* of same name, District Farrukhābād, United Provinces, situated in 27° 9' N. and 79° 31' E. It lies on the Grand trunk road, and is connected by an unmetalled road with Farrukhābād.

Population 6,526 (1901). The early history of the town is legendary, but by the time of Akbar it was the headquarters of a *pargana*. Nawāb Muhammad Khān of Farrukhābād, early in the 18th century, founded a new quarter called Muhammadganj, with a fine *sarāī* which was improved 100 years later by a British Collector. The town prospered by its situation near the Grand trunk road, and is administered under Act XX of 1856, with an annual income and expenditure of about Rs. 1,100. It contains a *tahsīlī* and dispensary. A market is held twice a week. The town school contains 120 pupils, and two primary schools 57.

Farrukhābād City.—Municipality which gives its name to the Farrukhabad District, United Provinces, situated in 27° 24' N. and 79° 34' E., 769 miles by rail from Calcutta and 924 miles by rail from Bombay. It lies near the Ganges, on the Cawnpore-Achhnerā Railway, and on a branch of the Grand trunk road. The headquarters of the District and cantonment are at FATEHGARH three miles east, and the two towns form a single municipal area. Population is decreasing: 1872, 79,204; 1881, 79,761; 1891, 78,032; 1901, 67,338. The population of Farrukhābād alone was 51,060 in 1901. Out of the total, Hindus included 47,041 and Musalmāns, 19,208.

Farrukhābād was founded about 1714 by Nawāb Muhammad Khān, and named after the Mughal emperor, Farrukh Siyar. Its history has been related in that of the District. The town is surrounded by the remains of a wall which encloses a triangular area. The houses and shops are well built, and often adorned with beautifully carved wooden balconies. Near the northern boundary is situated a high mound on which stood the Nawābs' palace, but its place has been taken by the town hall and *tahsīlī*. The streets are fairly broad and often shaded by trees. There are, however, few buildings of considerable pretensions, and the District school is perhaps the finest. North of the city lie some of the tombs of the Nawābs, chiefly in a ruinous state. The town contains a dispensary and female hospital.

The municipality was constituted in 1864. In the 10 years ending 1901 the average income was Rs. 57,000 and expenditure Rs. 56,000. In 1903-04 the income was Rs. 70,000

chiefly derived from octroi Rs. 57,000, and the expenditure Rs. 93,000, including a drainage scheme, Rs. 38,000; conservancy, Rs. 13,000; public safety, Rs. 15,000, and administration and collection, Rs. 8,000. The drainage scheme has been financed from savings, and is to cost about a lakh.

For many years after annexation the trade of Farrukhābād was very important, owing to its position near the Ganges and Grand trunk road, but the opening of the East Indian Railway diverted commerce. At present there is some manufacture of gold lace and of brass and copper vessels, and the calico printing industry is gaining a more than local celebrity. The latter is chiefly in the hands of Sādhās, a kind of Indian Quaker. A flour mill has recently been started. There is also a considerable export of potatoes, tobacco, and mangoes. The High school contained 164 pupils in 1904, the American Presbyterian Mission school, 217; and the town or middle school, 113. There are also several primary schools.

Fatehgarh.—Municipality, cantonment, and headquarters of the Farrukhābād District, United Provinces, situated in 27° 24' N. and 79° 35' E. It lies on a branch of the Grand trunk road, and on the Cawnpore-Achhonorā Railway. Population 12,218 (1901). The fort was built by Nawāb Muhammad Khān, but first became of importance in 1751, when Nawāb Ahmad Khān was besieged in it by the Marāṭhās. In 1777 this was chosen as one of the stations for the brigade of troops lent to the Nawāb of Oudh, but it did not pass into the possession of the British till 1802, when Fatehgarh became the headquarters of an Agent to the Governor-General. In 1804 Holkar reached this place in his raid through the Doāb, but was surprised and put to precipitate flight by Lord Lake—an incident which suggested to Thackeray the "Tremendous adventures of Major Gahagan." When the Mutiny broke out in 1857, a few of the European residents fled early in June to Cawnpore, where they were seized by the Nāna and massacred. Those who remained behind, after sustaining a siege of upwards of a week, were forced to abandon the fort, which had been undermined by the rebels, and to betake themselves to the Ganges. On their way down the river, they were attacked by the rebels and villagers on both sides of the river. One

boat reached Bithūr, where it was captured; the occupants were taken prisoners to Cawnpore and subsequently massacred. Another boat grounded in the river the day after leaving Fatehgarh, and all the passengers but three were shot down or drowned in their attempt to reach land. A number of the refugees were brought back to Fatehgarh, and after being kept in confinement for nearly three weeks, were shot or sabred on the parade-ground; their remains were cast into a well over which has been built a monument, with a memorial church near to it. The fort lies near the Ganges at the north of the station and has been used as a gun carriage factory since 1818, but will soon be closed. Near it stand the barracks of the British and native infantry garrison, partly occupied at present by the members of a mounted infantry class. The rest of the cantonment and the civil station lie along the high bank of the river separating the native town from the Ganges.

The municipal accounts are kept jointly with those of FARRUKHĀBAD city, which lies 3 miles away. The cantonments had a population of 4,060 in 1901, and the annual income and expenditure of cantonment funds are about Rs. 8,000. Trade is almost entirely local, but tents are made in three private factories and in the central jail. The gun carriage factory employed 795 hands in 1903. A middle school contains 143 pupils and there are several primary schools including one in the gun carriage factory, a girls' school, and a school for European and Eurasian children.

Kaimganj Town.—Headquarters town of *tahsīl* of same name, District Farrukhābād, United Provinces, situated in 27° 30' N. and 79° 21' E. It lies on the Cawnpore-Achhnerā Railway and also at the terminus of a metalled road from Farrukhābād. Population 10,369 (1901). The town was founded in 1713 by Muhammad Khān, first Nawāb of Farrukhābād, who named it after his son, Kaim Khān. It is the centre of a group of villages inhabited by a colony of Pathāns who settled here early in the 17th century. The best known of these villages is Mau Rashidābād, now a great tobacco field, about a mile north of Kaimganj. The Pathāns of this neighbourhood are still noted for the number of men they supply to the native army. In 1857

the *tahsīlī* was ineffectually besieged for a time by a band of fugitive insurgents from Kālpī. The town consists chiefly of a wide metalled bazar, about a mile long, from which branch many narrow unmetalled lanes. It contains a *tahsīlī*, *munsiffī*, and dispensary. Kaimganj is administered under Act XX of 1856 with an annual income and expenditure of about Rs. 2,000. There is a considerable trade in tobacco which is largely grown in the neighbourhood. The old manufacture of swords and matchlocks has dwindled down to a trade in ordinary knives and betelnut-cutters. The town school contains 193 pupils and three primary schools, 63.

Kampil.—Village in *tahsīl* Kaimganj, District Farrukhābād, United Provinces, situated in 27° 35' N. and 79° 14' E., 28 miles north-west of Fatehgarh. Population 2,336 (1901). Kampil is celebrated in the Mahābhārata as being the capital of south PANCHARA, under King Drupada. Here his daughter, Draupadī, married the five Pāndava brethren. The villagers still show the mound where the Rājā's castle stood, and the place, a few miles away, where the *svayamvara*, or ceremony at which Draupadī chose her husband, took place. At the end of the 13th century, Kampil appears as a nest of highway robbers, against whom the emperor Ghiyās-ud-dīn Balban marched a force in person, and built here a fort. The town and its vicinity constantly gave trouble in later years, but the Rāthor inhabitants were gradually suppressed. West of the town stretches a long series of ruins in which ancient coins are found. There are a fine Jain temple and a primary school with about 60 pupils.

Kanauj Town (Kannauj).—Ancient city in Farrukhābād District, United Provinces, situated in 27° 3' N. and 79° 56' E. It lies 2 miles away from the Grand trunk road and Cawnpore-Achhnerā Railway, and is close to the Kālī Nadi (East). The Ganges once flowed below its walls, but is now some miles away. Population 18,552 (1901). The town finds no mention in the Mahābhārata; but the legend of its foundation is given in the Rāmāyana. Kusinābha, the founder, had 100 daughters, all but the youngest of whom scorned the hermit, Vāyu. In revenge he cursed them and their backs became humped, whence the city was called Kānya-kubja or the crooked maiden. Early in the Christian era Ptolemy refers to Kanauj as *Kunogizai*.

The town was included in the Gupta dominions in the 5th century, and when the Gupta empire fell to pieces it became the capital of the Maukharis, one of the petty dynasties which arose in its place. In the 6th century it suffered from war with the white Huns and with their ally, the king of Māhvyā; but early in the 7th century it was included in the great empire of Harshavardhana in northern India. The Chinese pilgrim, Hiuen Tsiang, visited this monarch, and travelled with him from Allahābād to Kanauj, and he describes the magnificence of his court. Harshavardhana's death was the signal for anarchy, and the detailed history of the following years is unknown. In the latter half of the 9th century a dynasty of Raghuvansi kings reigned from Kanauj, which was also called Mahodayā, over an extensive dominion. One of these kings was defeated in 917 by the king of Gujarāt, but restored by the Chandel king of Mahobā. In 1019 Mahmūd of Ghazni plundered Kanauj, which now came into the power of the Rāthors, the most celebrated of whom was Gobind Chand (1115—1155). Nearly 200 years later, in 1194, Muhammad Ghori defeated Jai Chand, the last of the Rāthor kings, and the great kingdom of Kanauj came to an end. Under the Muhammadans Kanauj became the seat of a governor, but lost its old importance. In the 15th century it was included for a time in the kingdom of the Sharkī kings of Jaunpur; and when Mahmūd, son of Fīroz Tughlak, lost his hold on Delhi, he resided here for a time. It was close to Kanauj, though across the Ganges in the Hardoi District, that Humāyūn was crushed by Sher Shāh. Under Akbar, when order had once been restored, Kanauj entered on a long period of peace, and it was recorded in the Ain-i-Akbarī as the headquarters of a *sarkār*, once one of the great capitals of Hindustān. During the 18th century it belonged sometimes to the Nawābs of Farrukhābād, again to the Nawābs of Oudh, and at times to the Marāthās. The town or kingdom of Kanauj has given its name to an important division of Brāhmins, and to many sub-divisions of lower castes. Of the Hindu buildings which must have graced the place, nothing remains intact. The fine Jāma Masjid, built in 1406 by Ibrāhīm Shāh of Jaunpur, was constructed from Hindu temples, and the site is still known to Hindus as *Sitā kī rasoi* or Sitā's kitchen.

There are many tombs and shrines in the neighbourhood, the most notable being those of Makhdūm Jahāniyā south-east of the town, and Makhdūm Alhai Jamshīd three miles away. These buildings date from the 15th century. The most conspicuous buildings are, however, the tombs of Bālā Pīr and his son, Shaikh Mahdī, religious teachers who flourished under Shāh Jahān and Aurangzeb. The neighbourhood for miles along the river is studded with ruins, which have not been explored. The town lies on the edge of the old high bank of the Gauges, and but for the high mounds and buildings described above is not distinguishable from many towns of similar size. The houses are fairly well built, but small, and the most conspicuous modern building is a fine *sarai* recently completed. The dispensary, *tahsīlī*, and *munsiffī* are at Sarai Mirān 2 miles south of Kanauj. The town is administered under Act XX of 1856 with an annual income and expenditure of about Rs. 4,000. It is famous for its scent distilleries, where rose water, otto of roses, and other perfumes are produced, which have a great reputation. Calico printing is also carried on, but is not so important an industry here as in Farrukhābād city. There was formerly a small manufacture of country paper, and a cotton gin has been worked at intervals in the last few years. The town school contains 113 pupils and two primary schools, 96. There is also a flourishing aided school, housed in a fine building.

Sankisā.—A village in the District and *tahsīl* of Farrukhābād, United Provinces, situated in 27° 20' N. and 79° 16' E., near the banks of the Kālī Nadi (East). Population 951 (1901). The village is also called Sankisā Basantpur, and is chiefly celebrated for the ruins situated in it. These were identified by Cunningham with the site of the capital of the country called Sankāsya by Fa Hian and Kapithā by Hiuen Tsiang. This town was said to be the place at which Gautama Buddha descended from heaven, accompanied by Indra and Brahmā. The identification depends chiefly on measurements and directions which are not perfectly definite, and its correctness has been doubted.* The existing village is perched on a mound of ruins, locally known as the fort, 41 feet high, with a superficial extent of 1,500 feet by 1,000. A quarter of a mile

* V. A. Smith in the Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, 1898, page 508, *note*:

southward is another mound, composed of solid brickwork, and surmounted by a temple dedicated to Bisūri Devī. Near the temple mound Cunningham found the capital of an ancient pillar, bearing an erect figure of an elephant, which he considered to belong to the pillar of Asoka mentioned by the Chinese pilgrims. The latter describe the pillar as surmounted by a lion—a discrepancy which the learned archaeologist explained away by supposing that the trunk had been broken at an early date, and the animal could not be distinguished at a height of 50 feet. Other smaller mounds containing masses of brickwork surround those mentioned, and there are the remains of an earthen rampart upwards of $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles in circumference. This place has been very imperfectly explored, but ancient coins and clay seals bearing the Buddhist confession of faith are frequently found here.

(Cunningham, *Archæological Survey Reports of Northern India*, I, page 271, and XI, page 22.)

Shamsābād Town.—Town in Kaimganj *taluk*, District Farrukhābād, United Provinces, situated in $27^{\circ} 32'$ N. and $79^{\circ} 28'$ E. It lies on an unmetalled road 18 miles north-west of Farrukhābād, and also on a branch of the metalled road to Kaimganj town. Population 8,375 (1901). An old town called Khor was founded on the cliff of the Ganges three miles away, at the beginning of the 13th century, by a Rāthor descended from Jai Chand, last king of Kanauj. About 1228 Shamsud-dīn Altamsh came down the Ganges, which then flowed under the cliff, and expelled the Rāthors, founding Shamsābād in his own name. The Rāthors returned to Khor, however, and later took Shamsābād, and often rebelled against Muhammadan rule. In the contest between Delhi and Jaunpur the Rājās of Khor or Shamsābād supported the emperor and were finally driven out by the Jaunpur kings. Only the mound where the fort stood remains of old Shamsābād, and the new town was founded about 1585. In the Mutiny of 1857 a European planter lost his life here. The place has now decayed and is divided into scattered groups of houses by patches of cultivation. The principal thoroughfare is a long paved street, with a small grain market opening into a larger market-place. Shamsābād is administered under Act XX of 1856 with an annual

income and expenditure of about Rs. 1,200. Trade suffered by the alignment of the metalled road and railway which left the town some distance away, and the old manufacture of fine cloth has died out. There is, however, a small export of potatoes and tobacco. The town school contains 177 pupils.

Tālgrām (village of tanks).—Small town in *tahsīl* Chhib-rāmau, District Farrukhābād, United Provinces, situated in 27° 2' N. and 79° 39' E., 2½ miles south of Fatehgarh. Population 5,457 (1901). Tālgrām was the chief town of a *pargana* under Akbar, and from annexation to 1844 it was the headquarters of a *tahsīl*. It is administered under Act XX of 1856 with an annual income and expenditure of Rs. 600. Trade is local. There are 2 schools with 150 pupils.

Tirwā Town.—Headquarters town of *tahsīl* of same name, District Farrukhābād, United Provinces, situated in 26° 58' N. and 79° 48' E., 25 miles south-east of Fatehgarh. Population 5,763 (1901). The town is in two portions, three-quarters of a mile apart, Tirwā proper being the agricultural, and Ganj Tirwā the business and official quarter. The former contains a fine castle, the residence of the Rājā of Tirwā, who has a large estate in the neighbourhood. Attached to the fort are a handsome tank and temple constructed by a former Rājā. Ganj Tirwā is administered under Act XX of 1856, with an annual income and expenditure of about Rs. 900. It has a flourishing local trade, and contains the *tahsīlī* and a dispensary. Two schools are attended by 152 pupils.

Bound-
aries, con-
figura-
tion, and
river
system.

Mainpurī District.—District in the Agra Division, United Provinces, lying between 26° 53' and 27° 31' N. and 78° 27' and 79° 26' E., with an area of 1,675 square miles. It is bounded on the north by the Etah District, on the east by Farrukhābād, on the south by Etāwah and Agra, and on the west by Agra and Etah. The whole District forms a level plain, and variations in its physical features are chiefly due to the rivers which flow across it or on its boundaries, generally from north-west to south-east. The Jumna forms part of the southern boundary and is fringed by deep ravines, extending 2 miles from the river, incapable of cultivation, but affording good pasturage for cattle, as well as safe retreats for the lawless hordsmen or Ahīrs. North-east lie, in succession, the Sirsā, the Agangā, the Sengar,

the Arind or Rind, the Isan and the Kālī Nadi (East), which forms the greater part of the northern boundary. A well-defined sandy ridge lies in the west of the District and a range of sand-hills follows the course of the Kālī Nadi, a little inland. Shallow lakes or marshes abound over the whole area, but are most common in the central table land, in which are situated, in all directions, large stretches of barren soil called *ūsar*.

The flora of the District presents no peculiarities. It is Botany. well wooded, and extensive groves of mango and *shāsham* (*Dalbergia sissoo*) abound. The great *dhāk* (*Butea frondosa*) jungles which formerly studded the District have been largely cut away. *Babūl* (*Acacia arabica*) is common in the District. The weed *baisurī* (*Pluchea lanceolata*) is a pest in the west of the District, and *kāns* (*Saccharum spontaneum*) is sometimes troublesome in the sandy soil to the north-east.

The soil consists entirely of Gangetic alluvium; but *kankar* Geology. is abundant, both in a nodular and in block form. Saline efflorescences occur in many parts.

There are but few wild animals in the District. Antelope Fauna. occur in some numbers, and *nīlgai* (*Portax pictus*) in the *dhāk* jungles. Leopards and hyenas are found in the Jumna ravines, and wolves all over the District. Pigeons, water-fowl, and quail are common. Fish are plentiful, and the right of fishing in the rivers and tanks is often valuable.

The climate of Mainpurī is that of the Doāb generally. It is hot, but not excessively sultry during the summer months. The average rainfall is 31 inches, and the tract near the Jumna receives slightly more than the rest of the District. Variations from year to year are considerable. Climate and rainfall.

Nothing definite is known of the early history of Mainpurī, though mounds concealing ancient ruins are common. A few places are, as usual, connected with episodes in the Mahābhārata. The first precise notice of the District, however, is found in the records of its Muhammadan invaders. In 1194 Rāpri was made the seat of a Musalmān governor, and continued to be the local headquarters under many successive dynasties. During the vigorous rule of Sultān Bahlol (1450—88) Mainpurī and Etāwah formed a debatable ground between the powers of Delhi and Jaunpur, to both of which they supplied mercenary History and archæology.

forces. After the firm establishment of the Lodi princes, Rāpri remained in their hands until the invasion of the Mughals. Bābar occupied it in 1526, and the wild District of Etāwah also came into his hands without a blow. Mainpurī was wrested from the Mughals for a while by the Afghān, Kutab Khān, son of Sher Shāh, who adorned it with many noble buildings, the remains of which still exist. On the return of Humāyūn the Mughals once more occupied Mainpurī. Akbar included it in the *sarkārs* of Kanauj and Agra. The same vigorous ruler also led an expedition into the District for the purpose of suppressing the robber tribes by whom it was infested. During the long ascendancy of the line of Bābar the Musalmāns made little advance in Mainpurī. A few Muhammadan families obtained possessions in the District, but a very small proportion of the natives accepted the faith of Islām. Under the successors of Akbar Rāpri fell into comparative insignificance and the surrounding country became subordinate to Etāwah.

Like the rest of the central Doāb, Mainpurī passed towards the end of the 18th century into the powers of the Marāthās, and finally became a portion of the province of Oudh. When the neighbouring region was ceded to the British by the Nawāb of Oudh in the year 1801, the town became the headquarters of the extensive District of Etāwah. With the exception of a raid by Holkar in 1804, which was repulsed by the Provincial militia, Mainpurī has few events of importance to recount during the early years of British supremacy. Its unwieldy size was gradually reduced by the formation of Etah and Etāwah as separate Districts. The construction of the Ganges Canal was the only striking event between the cession and the Mutiny of 1857.

News of the massacre at Meerut reached Mainpurī on the 12th of May; and on the 22nd, after tidings of the Aligarh revolt had arrived at the station, the 9th Infantry broke into open mutiny. The few Europeans at Mainpurī gallantly defended the town till the 29th, when the arrival of the Jhānsi rebels made it necessary to abandon the District entirely. The Magistrate and his party were accompanied as far as Shikohābād by the Gwalior troopers, who then refused to obey orders, but quietly marched off home without molesting their officers. The

fugitives reached Agra in safety. Next day the Jhānsi force attacked the town, but was beaten off by the well-disposed inhabitants. The District remained in the hands of the rebel Rājā of Mainpurī, who held it till the reoccupation, when he quietly surrendered himself, and order was at once restored.

There are 8 towns and 1,380 villages. Population has ^{The} fluctuated during the last 30 years: 1872, 765,845; 1881, 801,216; 1891, 762,163; and 1901, 829,357. Between 1881 and 1891 floods caused a considerable area of land to remain uncultivated. The District is divided into five *tahsils*, MAINPUAI, BHONGAON, KARHAL, SHIKOHABAD and MUSTAFABAD. The headquarters of these (except that of Mustafābād, which is at Jasrāna) are at the places from which each is named. The chief town is the municipality of Mainpurī. The following table shows the main statistics of population in 1901:—

<i>Tahsil.</i>	Area in square miles.	Number of—		Population.	Population per square mile.	Percentage of variation in population between 1891 and 1901.	Number of persons able to read and write.
		Towns.	Villages.				
Mainpurī ...	386	3	249	183,180	475	+ 6.6	5,327
Bhongaon ...	459	1	390	226,940	494	+ 13.9	5,832
Karhal ...	218	1	189	98,398	451	— 1.9	2,386
Shikohābād ...	294	2	287	157,659	536	+ 11.1	3,792
Mustafābād ...	318	1	265	163,180	513	+ 4.8	2,241
District Total ...	1,675	8	1,380	829,357	495	+ 8.8	19,578

About 93 per cent. of the population are Hindus, and less than 6 per cent. Musalmāns, a very small proportion for the United Provinces. The density of population is below the average of the western plain. Between 1891 and 1901 the return of more favourable seasons led to an increase in population. Western Hindi is spoken almost universally, the prevailing dialect being Braj.

Castes and occupations. The most numerous Hindu castes are Ahirs (graziers and cultivators; 143,000), Chamars (tanners and labourers; 107,000), Kachhis (cultivators; 68,000), Brahmins, 68,000, and Rajputs, 68,000. Among Musalmans the chief castes or tribes are Shaikhs, 8,100, Pathans, 6,600, Fakirs, 5,700, and Bohnas (cotton-carders; 5,200). The agricultural population includes 70 per cent. of the total, a high proportion, general labour 6 per cent., and personal service 6 per cent.

Christian Missions. There were only 308 native Christians in 1901, of whom 196 were Methodists and 45 Presbyterians. The American Presbyterian Church commenced work here in 1843.

General agricultural conditions. The District is divided by its rivers into three tracts of varying qualities. On the north-east the area between the Isan and the Kali Nadi is composed of light sandy soil called *bhur* with here and there loam, especially near the west, where these two rivers are furthest apart. Between the Isan and Sirsa lies the garden of the District, a rich tract of fertile loam, though interspersed by many shallow lakes, patches of barren *usar* land, and occasional jungle. The third tract, commencing a little south of the Sengar, has some sandy stretches, but is much better than the north-eastern tract, and as far as the Sirsa it is little inferior to the central loam tract. South of the Sirsa the soil deteriorates; there are no *jhils* and no *usar*; the land is not so rich, and irrigation is scantier, the water-level sinking rapidly as the Jumna ravines are approached.

Chief agricultural statistics and principal crops. The District contains the usual tenures of the Provinces, but *zamindari* and *pattidari mahals* are more common than *bhaiyachara mahals*. There is one large *tulukdari* estate belonging to the Raju of MAINPURI, which is described separately. The principal agricultural statistics are given below (areas in square miles) :—

Tahsil.			Total.	Cultivated.	Irrigated.	Culturable waste.
Mainpuri	...	...	366	179	153	50
Bhongaon	...	...	450	260	205	61
Karhal	...	...	218	110	101	27
Shikohabad	...	...	294	186	180	44
Mustafabad	...	...	318	181	101	26
Total	...	...	1,676	926	719	203

These figures are for various years from 1900 to 1903, later figures not being available.

The chief food crops with the area under each (in square miles), in the same years, are : wheat (220), *jowār* (122), barley (110), *bājra* (100), and *gram* (90). Opium and cotton are the most important non-food crops, and they cover 28 and 39 square miles respectively.

No improvements can be noted in agricultural practice except the increase in the area double cropped, and a rise in the area under wheat, maize, poppy, and to some extent under indigo, which still occupies about 17 square miles. A steady demand exists for advances under the Agriculturists' Loans and Land Improvement Acts, which aggregated 1·8 lakhs between 1891 and 1900. One-third of this sum was advanced in 1896-97. The loans amounted to Rs. 4,500 in 1903-04. In the central tract and part of the south-western tract drainage was defective and has recently been improved, especially in the latter, where the Bhognāpur branch of the Lower Ganges Canal had caused some obstruction.

The cattle of the District are of the ordinary inferior type, though a little success has been achieved in improving the strain by imported bulls. Something has also been done to improve the breed of horses, and stallions have been kept here for many years. In 1870 an attempt was made without success to improve the breed of sheep. The best goats are imported from west of the Jumna. Sirsāganj is the great cattle market.

Mainpurī is well supplied by canal irrigation in almost every portion, and 900 square miles are commanded. In 1902-03 out of 489 square miles irrigated, canals supplied 209. The central tract is watered by the Cawnpore and Etāwah branches of the Lower Ganges Canal, which originally formed part of the Upper Ganges Canal. The tract north-east of the Isan is supplied by the Bewar branch, and part of that south-west of the Sengar and Sirsā by the Bhognāpur branch. The last tract is perhaps the area in which irrigation is most defective. Wells supply 235 square miles, tanks 32, and other sources only 13. Towards the Jumna and in the sandy tracts, wells cannot be easily constructed.

Kankar is found abundantly in both block and nodular form. The only other mineral product of the District is salt-petre, which is largely manufactured from saline efflorescences.

Arts and
Manufactures

The District has few arts or manufactures. Glass bangles are made from *rez*. Wood-carving was once popular in many parts of the District, and there is a peculiar variety in which the wood is inlaid with brass or silver wire. There is one cotton gin at Shikohābād, another was recently built at Mainpurī, and a third is working at Sirsāganj. Indigo is still made in 23 factories which employ about 1,000 hands.

Com-
merce.

The chief exports of the District are wheat and other grains, oilseeds, hides, and cotton, and the imports salt, metals, pioco-goods, sugar, tobacco, and rice. The trade is largely with Cawnpore, but sugar comes from Rohilkhand and tobacco from Farrukhābād. Some traffic is carried by the canal.

Railways
and
Roads.

The East Indian Railway crosses the south-western corner of the District, and a branch line, now under construction, will connect Shikohābād with Mainpurī and Farrukhābād, thus crossing the District from west to east. There are 197 miles of metalled roads and 200 of unmetalled. The Public Works department is in charge of the former; the cost of all but 83 miles of the metalled roads and of all the unmetalled roads is met from local funds. Avenues are maintained on 102 miles of road. Few Districts in the Provinces are so well supplied with roads, and only in the south-west are communications defective. The Grand trunk road passes through the north-west of the District with a branch to Agra through Mainpurī town, which is also connected by metalled roads with the other surrounding Districts.

Famine.

Mainpurī suffered severely in 1837-38 when extensive remissions of revenue were necessary, but nothing more was done to relieve distress. In 1860-61 relief works were opened and 4,000 able-bodied persons worked daily, besides 4,600 who received gratuitous relief. In 1868 the situation was saved by timely rain, and grain was actually exported. Distress was felt in 1877-78, especially in the south-west of the District, where canal irrigation was not available, and relief works had to be opened. In 1896-97 prices were high but 2,000 temporary wells were made from Government advances, besides 12,000 constructed from private capital, and distress was confined to the immigrants from Rājputāna. A test work only attracted a daily average of 100 persons. The four branches of the canal now make the District practically immune.

The ordinary District staff includes the Collector, and four Deputy Collectors recruited in India. There is a *tahsildār* at the headquarters of each *tahsil*. Mainpurī is also the headquarters of an Executive Engineer in charge of a division of the Lower Ganges Canal and of an officer of the Opium department.

There are two regular Munsiffs. The District and Sessions Judge of Mainpurī and Sub-Judge also exercise jurisdiction over the Etāwah District. Crime is of the usual nature, but outbreaks of dacoity are frequent. Cattle-theft is fairly common, and offences against the opium law are numerous. The District has long held a bad reputation for female infanticide, and 21,482 persons were still under surveillance in 1904, by far the largest number in any District in the United Provinces.

In 1801 Mainpurī became the headquarters of the so-called District of Etāwah, which included, besides the present District, parts of Farrukhābād, Agra, Etah, and Etāwah. In 1803 large additions were made, and in 1824 four sub-divisions were formed, the Mainpurī portion remaining under the Collector of Etāwah, who still resided at Mainpurī. The District began to take its present form in 1837. Early settlements were for short periods and were based on the records of previous collections and on a system of competition, preference, however, being given to the hereditary *samīndārs*, if they came forward. The first regular settlement was made in 1839-40, when a revenue of 12·5 lakhs was fixed. This assessment was, as it turned out, excessive owing to the failure to allow for the after-effects of the famine of 1837-38, which could not be foreseen, and it was reduced in 1845-46 to 10·5 lakhs, rising gradually to 11·4 lakhs in 1850-51. The next settlement was made between 1866 and 1873. Soils were marked off on the village map by actual inspection, and the rents payable for each class of soil were ascertained. The revenue assessed amounted to rather less than half the assets calculated by applying these rates, and was fixed at 12·8 lakhs. In 1877, owing to floods, mainly along the Kālī Nālī, the settlement of 70 villages was revised. Between 1883 and 1887 serious injury from floods again occurred along the Kālī Nālī, and *kāns* grass spread, while in the south of the District the new Bāgnipur branch of the canal had

caused damage. The revenue of the District was reduced by about Rs. 19,000. The present demand falls at R. 1-5-0 per acre, varying from little more than eight annas to nearly R. 1-12-0. A revision of settlement is in progress (1904). Collections on account of land revenue and total revenue have been (in thousands of rupees) —

		1880-81.	1890-91.	1900-01.	1903-04.
Land revenue	...	12,80,	12,23,	12,74,	12,44,
Total revenue	...	14,40,	16,95,	17,91,	18,31,

Local
self-gov-
ernment.

Besides the single municipality of Mainpurī, there are 7 towns administered under Act XX of 1856. Outside these, local affairs are managed by the District board, which has an income of a lakh, chiefly derived from local rates. In 1903-04 the largest item of expenditure was Rs. 81,000 on roads and buildings.

Police
and Jails.

The District Superintendent of Police has a force of four inspectors, 83 subordinate officers, and 340 men, besides 102 municipal and town police and 1,859 rural and road police. A sub-inspector and 11 head constables are specially maintained in connection with the surveillance of villages where female infanticide is believed to be prevalent. There are 15 police-stations, and a District jail which contained a daily average of 293 in 1903.

Educa-
tion.

Mainpurī takes a very low place in respect of the literacy of its inhabitants, and in 1901 only 2·4 per cent. (4·2 males and 2 females) could read and write. The number of public schools fell from 151 in 1881 to 133 in 1901, but the number of scholars rose from 4,146 to 4,851. In 1903-04 there were 153 public schools with 5,151 pupils, of whom 173 were girls, besides 82 private schools with 811. Three of the public schools are managed by Government and most of the remainder by the District or municipal boards. In 1903-04 out of a total expenditure of Rs. 38,000, fees only yielded Rs. 3,000, while local funds contributed Rs. 32,000.

Hospitals
and dis-
pensaries.

There are 8 hospitals and dispensaries with accommodation for 36 in-patients. In 1903 the cases of 47,000 persons

were treated, 772 of whom were in-patients, and 1,920 operations were performed. The expenditure in the same year was Rs. 8,200, chiefly met from local funds.

About 25,000 persons were successfully vaccinated in 1903-04, representing 30 per 1,000 of population. Vaccination is only compulsory in the municipality of Mainpuri.

[M. A. McConaghey and D. M. Smeaton, *Settlement Report*, 1875; *District Gazetteer*, 1876 (under revision).]

Mainpuri Tahsil.—Central northern *tahsil* of Mainpuri District, United Provinces, comprising the *parganas* of Mainpuri, Ghiror, and Kurauli, and lying between 27° 5' and 27° 28' N. and 78° 42' and 79° 5' E., with an area of 386 square miles. Population increased from 171,152 in 1891 to 183,180 in 1901. There are 249 villages and 3 towns, MAINPURI, the District and *tahsil* headquarters, population 19,000, being the largest. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 2,24,000 and for cesses Rs. 36,000. The density of population, 475 to the square mile, is slightly below that of the District. The *tahsil* is bounded on the north by the Kāli Nadi, and is also crossed by the Isan and its tributary the Kāknadiyā, and by the Arind. Near the Kāli Nadi lies a considerable area of sandy soil or *bhūr*, but most of the *tahsil* consists of fertile loam in which some large swamps or *jhils*, which have been partly drained, and patches of *ūsar* or barren land alone break the uniformly rich cultivation. Three branches of the Lower Ganges Canal provide ample means of irrigation. In 1900-01 the cultivated area was 179 square miles and the irrigated area 152. Wells supply about half the irrigated area, canals one-third, and tanks most of the remainder.

Bhongaon Tahsil.—Eastern *tahsil* of Mainpuri District, United Provinces, comprising the *parganas* of Bhongaon, Bewar, Alipur Patti, and Kishnī Nabiganj, and lying between 26° 58' and 27° 26' N. and 79° 1' and 79° 26' E., with an area of 459 square miles. Population increased from 195,368 in 1891 to 226,940 in 1901. There are 390 villages and only one town, BHONGAON, the *tahsil* headquarters, population 5,582. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 2,86,000, and for cesses Rs. 46,000. These figures have been raised in the new settlement to Rs. 3,19,000 for revenue and Rs. 51,000 for

cesses. The density of population, 491 to the square mile, is about the average for the District. On the north the *tahsil* is bounded by the Kālī Nadi, while the rivers Isan and Arind also cross it from north-west to south-east. The *tahsil* contains a large proportion of sandy soil or *bhūr*, specially near the Kālī Nadi, while the loam area south of the Isan includes considerable areas of barren soil or *ūsar* and large swamps. During the cycle of wet years, from 1883 and 1884, the tract near the Kālī Nadi suffered from flooding, and *kāns* spread in the affected area. Ample irrigation is provided by three branches of the Lower Ganges Canal, which supply more than half the irrigated area, and by wells, which supply about one-third. In 1900-01 the cultivated area was 260 square miles and the irrigated area 205. Tanks and streams supply about 20 square miles, a larger area than in any other *tahsil* in the District.

Karhal Tahsil.—Central southern *tahsil* of Mainpuri District, United Provinces, comprising the *parganas* of Karhal and Barnāhal, and lying between $26^{\circ} 56'$ and $27^{\circ} 9'$ N. and $78^{\circ} 46'$ and $79^{\circ} 10'$ E., with an area of 218 square miles. Population fell from 100,297 in 1891 to 98,398 in 1901. There are 189 villages and one town, KARHAL, the *tahsil* headquarters, population 6,268. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 1,75,000 and for cesses Rs. 28,000. The density of population, 451 to the square mile, is the lowest in the District, and this is the only *tahsil* which lost in population between 1891 and 1901. The Sengar, flowing from north-west to south-east, divides the *tahsil* into two parts. The eastern portion forms part of the great central loam tract in the District, and its fertility is only interrupted by patches of barren land called *ūsar*, and great swamps from which are formed the Paraha and Ahnoya streams, flowing into the Etāwah District. Although the west is more sandy it contains no *ūsar*; this tract suffered during the scarcity of 1896-97. In 1901-02 the cultivated area was 110 square miles, of which 101 were irrigated. The Etāwah branch of the Lower Ganges Canal irrigates the tract east of the Sengar; it supplies about half of the irrigated area and wells serve most of the remainder.

Shikohābād Tahsil.—South-western *tahsil* of Mainpuri District, United Provinces, conterminous with the *pargana* of the

same name, lying between $26^{\circ} 53'$ and $27^{\circ} 11'$ N. and $78^{\circ} 29'$ and $78^{\circ} 50'$ E., with an area of 294 square miles. Population increased from 140,093 in 1891 to 157,659 in 1901. There are 287 villages and 2 towns, of which SHIKOHABAD, the *tahsil* headquarters, is the larger and has a population of 10,798. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 2,71,000 and for cesses Rs. 44,000. The density of population, 536 to the square mile, is the highest in the District. On the south-west the *tahsil* is bounded by the Jumna, while the Sirsā flows through the centre. The Sengar crosses the northern portion, and the Agangā rises near Shikohābād. North of the Sirsā the soil, though light, is very fertile; but south of this river it becomes very sandy and continues to deteriorate till the Jumna ravines are reached. The tract south of the Sirsā is irrigated by the Bhognipur branch of the Lower Ganges Canal. When first constructed this work interfered with drainage, but cuts have been made to improve this. The cultivated area was 196 square miles in 1902-03, of which 160 were irrigated. Wells supply more than half of the irrigated area and the canal about a third. The dry tract suffered to some extent during the scarcity of 1896-97.

Mustafābād.—North-western *tahsil* of Mainpuri District, United Provinces, conterminous with the *pargana* of the same name, and lying between $27^{\circ} 8'$ and $27^{\circ} 31'$ N. and $78^{\circ} 27'$ and $78^{\circ} 46'$ E., with an area of 318 square miles. Population increased from 155,253 in 1891 to 163,180 in 1901. There are 265 villages and one town only, which contains less than 5,000 inhabitants. The *tahsil* headquarters were formerly at the village of Mustafābād, but were moved to the small village of Jastrāna in 1898. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 2,90,000 and for cesses Rs. 46,000. The density of population, 513 to the square mile, is slightly above the District average. Three rivers, the Arind, Sengar, and Sirsā, cross the *tahsil*, the Sengar having two branches known as Sengar and Sonhar. A sandy ridge runs transversely from north-west to south-east, but most of the *tahsil* is a fertile loam. In the south-western half of the *tahsil* wells are often brackish, and the weed *baisuri* (*Pluchea lanceolata*) is fairly common. Irrigation is supplied by three branches of the Lower Ganges Canal.

The cultivated area was 181 square miles in 1902-03, of which 101 were irrigated. Canals only supply about one-fifth of the irrigated area and wells serve most of the remainder.

Mainpurī Estate.—A *talukdārī* estate in the District of the same name, United Provinces, with an area of 89 square miles. The rent-roll for 1903-04 amounted to more than a lakh, and the revenue and cesses payable to Government by the estate were Rs. 58,000. The Rājā of Mainpurī is regarded as the head of the Chauhān Rājputs in the Doāb. He traces descent to the renowned Prithwī Rāj of Delhi, who fell before Muhammad Ghori in 1192. According to tradition the Chauhāns settled near Bhongaon early in the 14th century. It is probable that the Rai Pratāp mentioned by the Persian historians as occupying part of this District towards the close of the 15th century was a member of the family. Pratāp aided Bahlol Lodi in his wars with Jaunpur and was confirmed in his estates. Jagat Man, ninth in descent from Pratāp, founded the city of Mainpurī which was extended in 1749 by another descendant. During the rule of the Oudh government, towards the close of the 18th century, the Rājā was deprived of many of the farms he had previously held, but at the cession to the British a large tract was settled with him as *talukdār*, the estate being sometimes known as Manchana. In 1840 it was decided that settlement should be made with the subordinate proprietors where those existed, the *talukdār* receiving a certain proportion of the assets, but being excluded from management of the villages. The Rājā now receives this allowance from 133 villages, and his *zamindārī* estate comprises 75 villages. In the Mutiny Rājā Tej Singh rebelled, and the estate was confiscated and conferred on Tej Singh's uncle Bhawānī Singh, who had contested the title when Tej Singh succeeded. The present Rājā, Rām Partāb Singh, is a son of Bhawānī Singh.

Bhongaon Town.—Headquarters town of *tahsīl* of the same name, District Mainpurī, United Provinces, situated in 27° 16' N. and 79° 11' E., on the Grand trunk road. Population 5,582 (1901). According to tradition the town was founded by, and owes its name to, a mythical Rājā Bhīm, who was cured of leprosy by bathing in a pond here. It was the headquarters of a *pargana* under Akbar, and a high mound marks the

residence of the *āmīl* or governor. Bhongaon is administered under Act XX of 1856 with an annual income of Rs. 1,300. It has very little trade. The *tahsīlī* school contains about 70 pupils.

Karhal Town.—Headquarters town of *tahsīl* of the same name, Mainpurī District, United Provinces, situated in 27° N. and 78° 57' E., on the road from Mainpurī to Etāwah. Population 6,268 (1901). The town contains a bazar of poor shops, but has some substantial brickbuilt houses. A Saiyid family, some of the members of which are reputed to have miraculous powers, resides here. The *tahsīlī* and dispensary are the chief public buildings. Karhal is administered under Act XX of 1856 with an income and expenditure of about Rs. 1,400. Trade is local. The *tahsīlī* school contains about 90 pupils.

Mainpurī Town.—Municipality and headquarters town of the *tahsīl* and District of the same name, United Provinces, situated in 27° 14' N. and 79° 3' E. It lies at the junction of metalled roads from Agra, Etāwah, Etah, and Fatehgarh, and on a branch of the East Indian Railway, now (1904) under construction. Population 19,000 (1901). The town, which lies south of the Isan river, is made up of two parts, Mainpurī proper and Muhkamganj, lying respectively north and south of the Agra Road. The former existed, according to tradition, in the days of the Pāndavas, while another fable connects an imago known as Main Deo with the name of the town. The place seems to have been of no importance till the Chauhāns migrated here from Asaulī in the 13th, 14th or 16th century according to different versions. The town contains a large fort composed partly of brick and partly of mud belonging to the Rājā. Muhkamganj was founded in 1803 by Rājā Jaswant Singh. In the Mutiny the place was occupied by the Jhānsī rebels, who plundered and burnt the civil station, but were beaten off when they attempted to sack the town. The Agra branch of the Grand trunk road runs through the centre and forms a wide street, lined on either side by shops which constitute the principal bazar. Besides a *tahsīlī* and dispensary the town contains the headquarters of the American Presbyterian Mission, a large *sarai* and grain-market called Raikcsganj, after the Collector who built it about 1849, and a fine street, called

Laneganj, after another Collector. The civil station, with the District offices and jail, lies north of the Isan, which is crossed by stone bridges. Mainpurī has been a municipality since 1866. In ten years ending 1901 the average income and expenditure were Rs. 16,000. In 1903-04 the income was Rs. 22,000, chiefly from octroi, Rs. 16,000, and the expenditure Rs. 25,000. Trade is chiefly local, but may be expected to expand when the railway is opened. The place is noted for the production of articles of carved wood inlaid with brass wire. A steam cotton spinning factory was recently opened, and employs about 100 hands. The municipality maintains 2 schools and aids 2 others, with 322 pupils in 1904. There are also a District and *tahsīlī* schools and a Presbyterian Mission school.

Pendhat.—Village in *tahsīl* Mustafābād, District Mainpurī, United Provinces, situated in 27° 21' N. and 78° 31' E., 29 miles north-west of Mainpurī. Population 2,423 (1901). It is noted for the worship of Jokhaiyā, a godling believed by the lower classes in the Doāb to have great powers. Jokhaiyā was a Bhangī, who, according to tradition, fell in the war between Prithwī Rāj of Delhi and Jai Chand of Kanauj. The shrine is visited by thousands of pilgrims annually in the hope of obtaining offspring or an easy childbirth.

Rāprī.—Village in *tahsīl* Shikohābād, District Mainpurī, United Provinces, situated in 26° 58' N. and 78° 36' E., in the Jumna ravines, 44 miles south-west of Mainpurī. Population 900 (1901). The importance of Rāprī lies in its past history. Local tradition ascribes the foundation to Rao Zorāwar Sen, also known as Rāpar Sen, whose descendant fell in battle against Muhammad Ghorī in 1194 A.D. Mosques, tombs, wells, and reservoirs mark its former greatness; and several inscriptions found among the ruins have thrown much light on the local history. The most important of these dates from the reign of Alā-ud-din Khiljī. Many buildings were erected by Sher Shāh and Jahāngīr, and traces of the gate of one of the royal residences still exist, indicating that Rāprī must at one time have been a large and prosperous town. Rāprī has always been important as commanding one of the crossings of the Jumna, and a bridge of boats is maintained there, forming one of the main routes to the great cattle fair at BATESAR in the

Agra District, which is one of the largest in the United Provinces.

Shikohābād Town.—Headquarters town in *tahsīl* of the same name, Mainpurī District, United Provinces, situated in 27° 6' N. and 78° 57' E., on the Agra branch of the Grand trunk road, and 2 miles from the Shikohābād station on the East Indian Railway. Population 10,798 (1901). The town is said to have been first colonised by a Musalmān emigrant from RāpRI, named Muhammad, after whom it is called Muhammadābād. The name was changed to Shikohābād in honour of Dārā Shikoh. The Marāthās held the place and built a fort north of the site; but in the 18th century it often changed hands, and belonged at different times to the Jāts, Rohillas, Himmāt Goshain, and to Oudh. The British obtained possession in 1801 and established a cantonment south-west of the town, the garrison of which was surprised by a Marāthā force under Flenry in 1802, after which the troops were moved to Mainpurī. Besides the *tahsīl*, a dispensary is situated here. The town is administered under Act XX of 1856, with an annual income and expenditure of about Rs. 2,600. Shikohābād is celebrated for its sweetmeats and manufacture of country cloth. There was a steam cotton gin employing about 100 hands in 1904. The *tahsīl* school contains about 140 pupils and a girls' school 45.

Sirsāganj.—Village and trading mart in *tahsīl* Shikohābād, Mainpurī District, United Provinces, situated in 27° 3' N. and 78° 43' E., 6 miles north of the Bhādān station of the East Indian Railway. Population 4,122 (1901). The village of Sirsā is purely agricultural; but Sirsāganj, the market adjoining it, is the greatest centre of trade in the District. It consists of one principal street with a market-place called Raikesganj, after the Collector, who improved it. Trade is chiefly in grain, cotton, and hides, and a small cotton gin has been opened. Sirsāganj is administered under Act XX of 1856, with an income and expenditure of Rs. 1,300. It contains a primary school with about 50 pupils.

Etāwah District (*Ilāwā* or *Ilāwa*).—A District in the Agra Bound-
Division, United Provinces, lying between 26° 21' and 27° 1' N. ^{aries,}
and 78° 45' and 79° 45' E., with an area of 1,691 square miles. ^{configura-}
^{tion, and}
It is bounded on the north by the Mainpurī and Farrukhābād ^{river} system.

Districts; on the east by Cawnpore; on the south by Jālaun; and on the west by the Gwalior State and the Agra District. The District lies entirely in the Gangetic plain, but its physical features vary considerably and are determined by the rivers which cross it. Chief of these is the Jumna, which forms part of the western boundary, and then flows across the western portion of the District to the southern boundary, where it separates Etāwah from Jālaun. The area north-east of the Jumna is a level tract of extremely fertile soil, intersected by the small rivers Pāndū and Arind, with its tributaries the Ahneya and Puraha, and the more important Sengar, with its tributary, the Sirsā. In this area the stretch of rich cultivation is chiefly interrupted by patches of barren soil called *ūsar*, and swamps or *jhils*. The banks of both the Sengar (in the lower reaches) and the Jumna are high and fissured by deep ravines, increasing in wildness and extent as the rivers flow eastward. West of the Jumna the character of the country changes completely. The river Chambal forms part of the western boundary of the District, and after a winding course across part of it falls into the Jumna near the southern boundary, and south-west of it the Kuāri also divides Etāwah from the Gwalior State. The area between the Jumna and Chambal presents, for the most part, a scene of wild desolation, which can hardly be equalled in the plains of India. In the central tract a small area of level upland is found; but in the north-west and south-east the net-work of ravines, which borders both the rivers, meets in an extricable maze. The finest view of this solitary, though magnificent, wilderness is obtained from the fort at Bhareh, which stands near the junction of the Chambal and Jumna and within a few miles of the junction of the Kuāri, Sind, and Pahūj. South-west of the Chambal lies a tract as inhospitable as that just described, but with ravines of a less precipitous nature.

Botany.

The flora of the District is that of the plains generally. A large jungle once existed in the north-east, but has been largely cut down and cultivated, and only patches of *dhāk* (*Butea frondosa*) remain. The chief trees growing wild are varieties of acacia, especially the *bābūl* (*Acacia arabica*), and the District is fairly well wooded. Near the town of Etāwah a portion of the Jumna ravines was enclosed as a fuel and fodder reserve, but

this has been leased to a Cawnpore tannery as a *babul* plantation. Elsewhere the ravines are generally covered merely with grass and thorny brushwood or are entirely bare.

The District consists entirely of Gangetic alluvium, and the Geology. chief mineral product is *kankar* or limestone. This occurs both in nodular and in block form, especially in the ravines. Reefs of *kankar* obstructed the navigation of the Jumna and were removed many years ago, when some interesting mammalian remains were discovered in them.*

Leopards are occasionally seen in the wild tract south of the Fauna. Jumna, and a tiger was shot in the reserve in the Fischer Forest in 1902. Wolves are becoming rare, and pig are commonest near the ravines and in the jungle near the north of the District. The antelope and *nilgai* (*Portax pictus*) are found in the Doab, and the ravine-deer near the rivers. Duck, teal, and snipe abound in the cold weather. The larger rivers contain turtles, alligators, and the Gangetic porpoise, besides a great variety of fish.

The climate of the District is that of the Doab generally. Climate From April to the break of the rains hot west winds are usual, and rainfall. but the District is regarded as healthy. The average rainfall is 32 inches. Only slight variations occur in the amount received in different parts of the District, but the north-east receives a little more than the west. Considerable fluctuations are recorded from year to year. In 1868-69 the fall was less than 15 inches, while a year earlier it was nearly 50.

Numerous mounds still show the ancient sites of pre-historic History. forts throughout the District, which long formed a main stronghold of the Moos, the Ishmaelites of the upper Doab. In their hands it doubtless remained until after the earliest Muhammadan invasions, as none of the tribes now inhabiting its borders has any traditions which stretch back beyond the 12th century of our era. Etawah was probably traversed both by Mahmūd of Ghazni and by Kutab-ud-dīn, on their successful expeditions against the native dynasties; but the memorials of these events are indistinct and uncertain on all local details. It is clear, however, that the Hindus of Etawah succeeded on the whole in maintaining their independence against the Musalmān aggressors; for while some of the neighbouring Districts have a

number of wealthy and influential Muhammadan colonies, only a thin sprinkling of Shaikhs or Saiyids can be found among the territorial families of Etāwah. The Rājputs seem to have occupied the District during the 12th century. Etāwah town lies on one of the old routes through northern India and became the seat of a Muhammadan governor; but the histories teem with notices of raids conducted with varying success by the Saiyid generals against the "accursed infidels" of Etāwah. The Hindu chiefs were generally able to defend their country from the invaders, though they made peace after each raid by the payment of a precarious tribute. Early in the 16th century Bābar conquered the District, together with the rest of the Doāb; and it remained in the power of the Mughals until the expulsion of Humāyūn. His Afghān rival, Sher Shāh, found this portion of his dominions difficult to manage and stationed 12,000 horsemen in and near the neighbouring *pargana* of Hatkānt (now *tahsīl* Bāh in Agra District), who dealt out such rude but prompt measures of justice as suited the circumstances of the place and the people. Akbar included parts of Etāwah in his *sarkārs* of Agra, Kanauj, Kālpī, and Erāchh. But even that great administrator failed thoroughly to incorporate Etāwah with the dominions of the Delhi court. Neither as proselytizers nor as settlers have the Musalmāns impressed their mark so deeply here as in other Districts of the Doāb. During the decline of the Mughal power, Etāwah fell at first into the grasping hands of the Marāthās. The battle of Pānīpat dispossessed them for a while, and the District became an appanage of the Jāt garrison at Agra. In 1770 the Marāthās returned, and for three years they occupied the Doāb afresh. But when, in 1773, Najaf Khān drove the intruders southward, the Nawāb Wazīr of Oudh crossed the Ganges, and laid claim to his share of the spoil. During the anarchic struggle which closed the century, Etāwah fell sometimes into the hands of the Marāthās, and sometimes into those of the Wazīr; but at last the power of Oudh became firmly established, and was not questioned until the cession to the East India Company in 1801. Even after the British took possession, many of the District chiefs maintained a position of independence, or at least of insubordination; and it was some time before the revenue officers ventured to approach them with

a demand for the Government dues. Gradually, however, the turbulent landowners were reduced to obedience, and industrial organization took the place of the old predatory *régime*. The murderous practice of *thagī* (*thuggee*) had been common before the cession, but was firmly repressed by the new power. In spite of a devastating famine in 1837, which revolutionized the proprietary system by dismembering the great *talukas* or fiscal farms, the District steadily improved for many years under the influence of settled government. The Mutiny of 1857 interrupted for some months this progress. News of the outbreak at Meerut reached Etāwah two days after its occurrence. Within the week, a small body of mutineers passed through the District and fired upon the authorities, upon which they were surrounded and cut down. Shortly after, another body occupied Jaswantnagar, and, although a gallant attack was made upon them by the local officials, they succeeded in holding the town. On the 22nd of May it was thought desirable to withdraw from Etāwah town; but the troops mutinied on their march, and it was with difficulty that the officers and ladies reached Barhpura. There they were joined by the first Gwalior Regiment, which, however, itself proved insubordinate upon the 17th of June. It then became necessary to abandon the District and retire to Agra. The Jhānsi mutineers immediately occupied Etāwah, and soon passed on to Mainpurī. Meanwhile many of the native officials proved themselves steady friends of order, and communicated whenever it was possible with the Magistrate in Agra. Bands of rebels from different quarters passed through between July and December, until on Christmas-day Brigadier Walpole's column re-entered the District. Etāwah station was recovered on the 6th January, 1858; but the rebels still held the Shergarh *ghāt*, on the main road to Bundelkhand, and the whole south-west of the District remained in their hands. During the early months of 1858 several endeavours were made to dislodge them step by step; but the local force was not sufficient to allow of any extensive operations. Indeed, it was only by very slow degrees that order was restored; and as late as the 7th December a body of plunderers from Oudh, under Firoz Shāh, entered the District, burning and killing indiscriminately wherever they went. They were attacked and defeated at Harchaudpur, and by the end of

1858 tranquillity was completely restored. Throughout the whole of this trying period, the loyalty exhibited by the people of Etāwah themselves was very noticeable. Though mutineers were constantly marching through the District, almost all the native officials remained faithful to the cause of order; and many continued to guard the treasure, and even to collect revenue, in the midst of anarchy and rebellion. The principal *zamīndārs* also were loyal almost to a man.

Archæo-
logy.

The District is rich in ancient mounds, though none has been explored. Mūnj and Asai Khera in *tahsīl* Etāwah have been identified with places visited by Mahmūd of Ghazni, but with doubtful accuracy (see ZAFARABAD). At the latter place a number of Jain images, dated between the 9th and 12th centuries, have been discovered. Several copperplate grants of Gobind Chand of Kanauj, dated early in the 12th century, have been found at different places. The most striking building in the District is the Jāma Masjid at ETAWAH town, built by altering an ancient Hindu or Buddhist structure.

The
people.

There are 6 towns and 1,474 villages. Population has increased considerably during the last 30 years: 1872, 668,641; 1881, 722,371; 1891, 727,629; and 1901, 806,798. The District is divided into four *tahsīls*, ETAWAH, BHARTHANA, BIDHUNA, and AURAIYA, the headquarters of each being at a place of the same name. The principal town is the municipality of Etāwah, the administrative headquarters of the District. The following table shows the chief statistics of population in 1901:—

<i>Tahsīl.</i>	Area in square miles.	Number of—		Population.	Population per square mile.	Percentage of variation in population between 1891 and 1901.	Number of persons able to read and write.
		Towns.	Villages.				
Etāwah ...	426	2	353	216,142	507	+ 8.4	8,055
Bharthanā ...	418	2	300	191,142	459	+ 11.1	5,101
Bidhūna ...	433	...	413	206,182	476	+ 9.0	5,310
Auraiyā ...	416	2	408	193,333	465	+ 11.0	5,829
District Total ...	1,691	6	1,474	806,798	477	+ 10.8	24,295

About 94 per cent. of the people are Hindus and less than 6 per cent. Musalmāns, the latter proportion being the lowest in any District of the Doāb. The absence of large towns and the barren area in the south-west cause a low density of population. The increase between 1891 and 1901 was large, as the District escaped fairly well from famine, and its population was increased by immigration. Almost the whole population speaks Western Hindi, the prevailing dialect being Kanaujia.

Among Hindus the most numerous castes are Chamārs (leather-workers and labourers; 107,000), Ahīrs (graziers and cultivators; 103,000), Brāhmans, 97,000, Rājputs, 69,000, Kāchhis, (cultivators; 51,000), Lodhas (cultivators), 48,000, Baniās, 29,000, and Korīs (weavers; 27,000). It has already been stated that Muhammadans form a very small part of the population. The principal tribes are the Pathāns, 11,000, and Shaikhs (many of whom are descended from converted Hindus), 16,000. The agricultural population includes 70 per cent. of the total, while 7 per cent. are supported by general labour and 6 per cent. by personal services. Brāhmans and Rājputs each hold about one-third of the District in proprietary right. Brāhmans, Rājputs, and Ahīrs hold the largest areas as tenants; but Kāchhis and Lodhas are the best cultivators. Ahīrs are the founders of many new hamlets, as they prefer to have waste land as pasturage for their cattle, and are more ready to emigrate than most castes.

There were 198 native Christians in 1901, of whom 62 were Presbyterians. The American Presbyterian Church has had a mission here since 1863 and has two out-stations.

The District contains four natural divisions-affecting cultivation. The tract north-east of the Sengar is known as the *pachār*. The soil is a rich loam, interspersed with large tracts of *ūsar* and marshes or *jhils*, and produces fine crops of wheat and sugarcane. South-west of the Sengar, and reaching to the high ground in which the Jumna ravines begin, lies an area known as the *ghār*, the soil of which is a red sandy loam. Water is at a great depth, and there are no *ūsar* plains and no *jhils*. The extension of canal irrigation has made this the most fertile tract in the District, and there is now little difference between it and the *pachār*. The uplands and ravines of the Jumna are

called the *karhā*. The uplands are similar to the *ghār*, but the ravines are barren. Along the Jumna rich alluvial land is found in places where the river does not approach the high bank. The area between the Jumna and Chambal and south-west of the Chambal, called *pār*, is largely uncultivated. Where the ravines do not meet, the tableland is composed of good loam. The Chambal alluvium is black soil resembling the *mār* of Bundelkhand, and is fertile; but there is little of it: where the ravines contain good soil this is protected by terraces and embankments as in the Kumaun hills.

Chief
agricul-
tural sta-
tistics
and prin-
cipal
crops.

The tenures are those usually found in the United Provinces. Out of 4,282 *mahāls* 2,030 are held *zamīndāri* and 1,252 *pattidāri* or *bhaiyāchārā*; but the last class of tenure is very rare. The principal statistics of cultivation in 1903-04 are shown below, in square miles:—

Tahsil.		Total.	Cultivated.	Irrigated.	Culturable waste.
Etāwah ...	...	426	221	96	99
Bharthanā ...	...	416	213	103	96
Bidhūna ...	...	433	204	116	61
Auraiyā ...	...	416	238	82	105
Total ...	...	1,691	876	397	361

The chief food crops, with their area in square miles, in the same year were: wheat (179), *gram* (144), *jowār* (93), barley (135), and *bājra* (150). Cotton covered 68 square miles and opium 34.

Improve-
ments in
agricul-
tural
practice.

There has been no extension of the cultivated area in the last 30 years. The area double-cropped has, however, nearly doubled, and is now about a fifth of the cultivated area. The cultivation of cotton and sugar has decreased, but on the other hand the area under maize, indigo, and rice is higher than in 1872. In the west of the District drainage was obstructed by the railway and by the Bhognipur branch of the canal, but has

been improved. Advances under the Agriculturists' Loans Act have been taken freely in adverse seasons. Thus in the wet years 1890-92, Rs. 61,000 were advanced, and in the scarcity of 1896-97 Rs. 22,000 were lent. In ordinary years the advances are usually less than Rs. 1,000. Rupees 47,000 were advanced in 1896-97 under the Land Improvement Act; but in favourable seasons very few applications are received.

The District has no particular breed of cattle or horses. Cattle, No attempts have been made to improve the indigenous strains, ponies, and the best cattle are imported. The buffaloes are, however, and sheep, noted for milch purposes. Sheep and goats are reared in considerable numbers between the Jumna and Chambal, and have a considerable reputation in the Doāb. The goats, in particular, are purchased and kept to give milk.

The *pachār* or tract north-east of the Sengar is irrigated by Irriga- the Etāwah branch of the Lower Ganges Canal, and the *ghār* or tion. red soil area between the Sengar and the Jumna by the Bhognipur branch of the same canal. In 1903-04 canals irrigated 276 square miles, wells 105, and tanks and other sources 16. Wells are most common in the *pachār* and are hardly used for irrigation in the *karkha* or *pār* area.

Calcareous limestone or *kankar* is found in many parts of Minerals. the District both in nodules and in block form. The hardest variety is obtained from the ravines, where it has been washed free from earth.

There are very few manufactures in the District. A little Arts and. cloth is woven in many places, and finer varieties were formerly manufactures. made in Etāwah. Crude glass is made at a few places in the District, and Jaswantnagar is noted for brass-work. Indigo is still made in 35 factories employing about 1,700 hands, and 8 cotton gins, three of which also contain presses, employ about 1,000. There is also a small sandal oil factory at Sarai Mahajnau.

Cotton, *ghi*, *gram*, and oilseeds form the principal exports. Com. Much of the *ghi* comes from the Gwalior State and is sent merc. to Calcutta and Bombay, while cotton is exported to Cawnpore, Bombay, and Calcutta. The imports are chiefly of piece-goods, metals, drugs, and spices. There was formerly considerable traffic on the river, but this has now ceased. Many fairs and markets are held in the District.

Railways
and
Roads,

The East Indian Railway passes through the centre of the District from south-east to north-west: extensions to tap the trade of the rich *ghār* tract are under consideration. There are 89 miles of metalled roads, and 443 of unmetalled roads, all of which are maintained at the cost of local funds, though the former are managed by the Public Works department. The old imperial road from Agra to Allāhabād runs through the District, but very little of it has been metalled. The chief trade route is the road from Farrukhābād to Gwalior, which is metalled, and good feeder roads have been made to the principal railway stations. Avenues are maintained on 305 miles.

Famine.

The District has suffered repeatedly from famine. Immediately after the commencement of British rule drought and hailstorms caused much distress in 1803-04. Minor famines occurred in 1813-14, 1819, and 1825-26. The great famine of 1837-38 was most severely felt, and led to the breaking up of many large estates. In 1860-61 and in 1868-69 the District escaped as compared with other Districts. In 1877-78, though the rains failed almost completely, the canal commanded a large area and saved the harvest. Prices were high and relief works were opened; but famine was not severe. The famine of 1896-97 was felt in the *karkha* and *pār* tracts. Relief works were necessary and the daily number on them rose to nearly 18,000 in February 1897. Revenue was remitted to the extent of Rs. 59,000.

District
staff.

The ordinary District staff includes a Collector, a Joint Magistrate belonging to the Indian Civil Service, and three Deputy Collectors recruited in India. There is a *tahsildār* at the headquarters of each *tahsil*. Two Executive Engineers in charge of divisions of the Lower Ganges Canal and an officer of the Opium department are stationed at Etāwah.

Civil Jus-
tice and
Crime.

There are two regular District Munsiffs; but Etāwah is included in the Civil and Sessions Judgeship of Mainpuri. On the whole crime is lighter than in other Districts of the Agra Division; dacoities and cattle-theft are, however, fairly common. Female infanticide was formerly rife, but is rarely suspected now.

Land
Revenue
adminis-
tration.

A District of Etāwah was formed at the cession in 1801; but it also included large areas now in adjoining Districts, and

was administered from Mainpurī. Many changes took place, and in 1824 four sub-divisions were formed. In 1840 the District took its present shape. The first settlement of 1801-02 was based on the accounts of the celebrated Almas Ali Khān, an officer of the Oudh government, and it was followed by other short-term settlements lasting 3 or 5 years. The demand at each of these was based on the previous demand, and on general considerations, such as the area under cultivation, and the ease or difficulty with which collections were made. A large part of the District was held on *talukdārī* tenures; but many of the *talukdārs* gave much trouble to the administration, and some of them were forcibly ejected after open rebellion. The early settlements were oppressive and cultivation decreased and tenants emigrated. The famine of 1837-38 completed the ruin of *talukdārs*, and their estates were settled with the resident cultivators. Operations were commenced on a more scientific principle under Regulation VII of 1822; but progress was extremely slow, and when the first regular settlement was commenced in 1833 by Mr. (afterwards Lord) John Lawrence under Regulation IX of 1833, 100 villages had not been settled. The demand fixed in 1841 amounted to 13·1 lakhs, and was a reduction of over 10 per cent. on the previous demand. The next revision was made between 1868 and 1874. The land of each village was classified according to its soil, and suitable rent rates for each class of soil were assumed. These rates were selected from rents actually paid, and the assets of each village were calculated from them. The recorded assets were rejected, partly as being incorrect, and partly because rents had not been enhanced as much as it was thought they might have been. The new revenue was fixed at 13·3 lakhs, which represented 50 per cent. of the assumed assets. At present the demand falls at R. 1-7-0 per acre, varying from R. 1-6-0 to R. 1-9-0 in different parts of the District. It was expected that the actual assets would rise to the assumed assets within 15 years. The question of a revision of settlement was considered in 1900, when it was decided that an extension of the term of settlement for 10 years should be made, as no increase of revenue was expected, and the existing demand was not so unequal as to require redistribution. Collections

Railways
and
Roads,

The East Indian Railway passes through the centre of the District from south-east to north-west: extensions to tap the trade of the rich *ghār* tract are under consideration. There are 89 miles of metalled roads, and 443 of unmetalled roads, all of which are maintained at the cost of local funds, though the former are managed by the Public Works department. The old imperial road from Agra to Allahābād runs through the District, but very little of it has been metalled. The chief trade route is the road from Farrukhābād to Gwalior, which is metalled, and good feeder roads have been made to the principal railway stations. Avenues are maintained on 305 miles.

Famine.

The District has suffered repeatedly from famine. Immediately after the commencement of British rule drought and hailstorms caused much distress in 1803-04. Minor famines occurred in 1813-14, 1819, and 1825-26. The great famine of 1837-38 was most severely felt, and led to the breaking up of many large estates. In 1860-61 and in 1868-69 the District escaped as compared with other Districts. In 1877-78, though the rains failed almost completely, the canal commanded a large area and saved the harvest. Prices were high and relief works were opened; but famine was not severe. The famine of 1896-97 was felt in the *karkha* and *pār* tracts. Relief works were necessary and the daily number on them rose to nearly 18,000 in February 1897. Revenue was remitted to the extent of Rs. 59,000.

District
staff.

The ordinary District staff includes a Collector, a Joint Magistrate belonging to the Indian Civil Service, and three Deputy Collectors recruited in India. There is a *tahsildār* at the headquarters of each *tahsil*. Two Executive Engineers in charge of divisions of the Lower Ganges Canal and an officer of the Opium department are stationed at Etāwah.

Magistrate
and
Jury

There are two regular District Munsiffs; but Etāwah is included in the Civil and Sessions Judgeship of Mainpuri. On the whole crime is lighter than in other Districts of the Agra Division; dacoities and cattle-theft are, however, fairly common. Female infanticide was formerly rife, but is rarely suspected now.

Land
Revenue
adminis-
tration.

A District of Etāwah was formed at the cession in 1801; but it also included large areas now in adjoining Districts, and

was administered from Mainpuri. Many changes took place, and in 1824 four sub-divisions were formed. In 1840 the District took its present shape. The first settlement of 1801-02 was based on the accounts of the celebrated *Almās Ali Khān*, an officer of the Oudh government, and it was followed by other short-term settlements lasting 3 or 5 years. The demand at each of these was based on the previous demand, and on general considerations, such as the area under cultivation, and the ease or difficulty with which collections were made. A large part of the District was held on *talukdārī* tenures; but many of the *talukdārs* gave much trouble to the administration, and some of them were forcibly ejected after open rebellion. The early settlements were oppressive and cultivation decreased and tenants emigrated. The famine of 1837-38 completed the ruin of *talukdārs*, and their estates were settled with the resident cultivators. Operations were commenced on a more scientific principle under Regulation VII of 1822; but progress was extremely slow, and when the first regular settlement was commenced in 1833 by Mr. (afterwards Lord) John Lawrence under Regulation IX of 1833, 100 villages had not been settled. The demand fixed in 1841 amounted to 13·1 lakhs, and was a reduction of over 10 per cent. on the previous demand. The next revision was made between 1868 and 1874. The land of each village was classified according to its soil, and suitable rent rates for each class of soil were assumed. These rates were selected from rents actually paid, and the assets of each village were calculated from them. The recorded assets were rejected, partly as being incorrect, and partly because rents had not been enhanced as much as it was thought they might have been. The new revenue was fixed at 13·3 lakhs, which represented 50 per cent. of the assumed assets. At present the demand falls at R. 1-7-0 per acre, varying from R. 1-6-0 to R. 1-9-0 in different parts of the District. It was expected that the actual assets would rise to the assumed assets within 15 years. The question of a revision of settlement was considered in 1900, when it was decided that an extension of the term of settlement for 10 years should be made, as no increase of revenue was expected, and the existing demand was not so unequal as to require redistribution. Collections

on account of land revenue and total revenue have been (in thousands of rupees):—

	1880-81.	1890-91.	1900-01.	1903-04.
Land revenue	13,28,	13,34,	13,30,	13,23,
Total revenue	14,00,	18,24,	19,08,	19,18,

Local
self-gov-
ernment.

The only municipality is that of Etahwah, and 5 smaller towns are administered under Act XX of 1856. Outside these the local affairs of the District are managed by the District board, which had an expenditure of 1·4 lakhs in 1903-04, of which Rs. 61,000 were spent on roads and buildings.

Police and
Jails.

The District Superintendent of Police has a force of 4 inspectors, 85 subordinate officers, and 344 men, besides 135 municipal and town police and 1,500 village and road police. There are 19 police-stations and a District jail, which contained a daily average of 231 convicts in 1903.

Educa-
tion.

Education is not very advanced. Only 3 per cent. (5 males and 3 females) could read and write in 1901. The number of public schools fell from 147 in 1880-81 to 119 in 1900-01; but the number of pupils rose from 3,809 to 5,096. In 1903-04 there were 160 public schools with 6,447 pupils, of whom 294 were girls besides 114 private schools with 1,214 pupils. Of the public schools three are managed by Government and 107 by the District and municipal boards, the rest being under private management. The total expenditure was Rs. 45,000, of which Rs. 9,000 were met from fees and Rs. 31,000 from local funds.

Hospitals
and dis-
pensaries.

There are 8 hospitals and dispensaries with accommodation for 75 in-patients. 45,000 cases were treated in 1903, of which 602 were those of in-patients, and 2,700 operations were performed. The expenditure in the same year was Rs. 11,000, chiefly met from local funds.

Vaccina-
tion.

About 25,000 persons were successfully vaccinated in 1903-04, representing a proportion of 31 per 1,000 of the population. Vaccination is only compulsory in the municipality.

(C. H. T. Crosthwaite and W. E. Neale, *Settlement Report*, 1875: *District Gazetteer*, 1876 [under revision].)

Etāwah Tahsīl.—North-western *tahsīl* of Etāwah District, United Provinces, conterminous with *pargana* of the same name, and lying between 26° 38' and 27° 1' N. and 78° 45' and 79° 13' E., with an area of 426 square miles. Population increased from 198,023 in 1891 to 216,142 in 1901. There are 353 villages and 2 towns, ETAWAH, the *tahsīl* headquarters, population 42,570, and JASWANTNAGAR (5,405). The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 3,18,000 and for cesses Rs. 51,000. The density of population, 507 to the square mile, is a little above the District average. The *tahsīl* contains portions of the 4 natural tracts found in the District. North-east of the Sengar river lies the *pachār*, a fertile loam tract which, however, contains marshes and patches of barren land or *ūsar*. A tract called *ghār* lies south of the Sengar, with a soil, which though lighter is very fertile when irrigated. The Jumna, ravines, known as *karkha*, and the area between the Jumna and Chambal, called *pār*, are generally barren and there is little alluvial land. In 1903-04 the cultivated area was 221 square miles, of which 96 were irrigated. The Etāwah and Bhognipur branches of the Lower Ganges Canal supply more than half the irrigated area and wells most of the remainder.

Bharthanā.—Central *tahsīl* of Etāwah District, United Provinces, conterminous with *pargana* of same name, and lying between 26° 30' and 26° 59' N. and 78° 59' and 79° 21' E., with an area of 416 square miles. Population increased from 169,979 in 1891 to 191,141 in 1901. There are 300 villages and 2 small towns, Lakhnū with a population of 3,771 and Aheripur (3,144). The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 3,07,000 and for cesses Rs. 51,000. The density of population, 459 to the square mile, is slightly below the District average. The *tahsīl* is divided by the rivers Sengar, Jumna, and Chambal into four tracts. North of the Sengar lies a fertile area called *pachār*, intersected by two smaller streams, and containing some large areas of barren land and marshes. Irrigation is provided by the Etāwah branch of the Lower Ganges Canal. South of this river the soil is red in colour and sandy in nature. Owing to the depth of the water irrigation was formerly difficult; but the Bhognipur branch of the Lower Ganges Canal now supplies this area, which is called *ghār*. The tract bordering on

the Jumna called *karkha* and the area south of it, known as *pār*, are intersected by ravines, but have a fair area of alluvial soil or *kachār*, on the banks of the river. In 1903-04, 213 square miles were cultivated and 103 irrigated. Canals supply six-sevenths of the irrigated area, and wells most of the rest.

Bidhūna.—North-eastern *tahsīl* of Etāwah District, United Provinces, conterminous with *pargana* of same name and lying between 26° 38' and 26° 57' N. and 79° 20' and 79° 45' E., with an area of 433 square miles. Population increased from 187,530 in 1891 to 206,182 in 1901. There are 413 villages, but there is no town. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 3,68,000 and for cesses Rs. 60,000. The density of population, 476 to the square mile, is almost exactly equal to the District average. Bidhūna lies north of the river Sengar, and consists of a fertile area of rich soil, only interrupted by marshes and patches of barren land. On the north it is crossed by the Pāndū, and two small streams, the Puraha and Ahnoya, unite and then join the Arind, which also flows across it. This is the most fertile *tahsīl* in the District, and 20½ square miles were cultivated in 1903-04, of which 116 were irrigated. A distributary of the Cawnpore branch of the Lower Ganges Canal supplies the north of the *tahsīl*, and the Etāwah branch of the same canal supplies the southern portion. Canals serve nearly half the irrigated area and wells most of the remainder.

Auraiyā Tahsīl.—A *tahsīl* of Etāwah District, United Provinces, conterminous with *pargana* of same name, and lying between 26° 22' and 26° 41' N. and 79° 3' and 79° 39' E., with an area of 416 square miles. Population increased from 172,097 in 1891 to 193,333 in 1901. There are 408 villages and 2 towns: PHAPHUND, population 7,605, and AURAIYA, the *tahsīl* headquarters (7,393). The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 3,31,000 and for cesses Rs. 53,000. The density of population, 465 to the square mile, is a little below the District average. The *tahsīl* is divided into four tracts by the rivers Sengar, Jumna, and Chambal. Most of it is included in the *ghār*, an area lying between the Sengar and Jumna. This has a light sandy soil, which is, however, fertile where irrigated,

and it is crossed by the Bhognipur branch of the Lower Ganges Canal. North of the Sengar the land is richer and is irrigated chiefly by wells. The high land bordering on the Jumna is intersected by ravines and generally barren, while south of the Jumna the soil is poor and gravelly, except near the rivers, where some good alluvial land is found. In 1903-04, 238 square miles were cultivated of which 82 were irrigated, almost entirely by canals.

Auraiyā Town.—Headquarters town in *tahsīl* of same name, District Etāwah, United Provinces, situated in 26° 28' N. and 79° 31' E., 42 miles from Etāwah. It lies on the old imperial road from Agra to Allahābād at the point where this is crossed by the metalled road from Jālaun to Debiāpur Phaphūnd station on the East Indian Railway. Population 7,393 (1901). The town is said to have been founded early in the 16th century, and contains some Hindu temples dating from a little later, and two mosques built by a Rohilla governor in the 18th century. Auraiyā also contains some good *sarais*, a fine market-place called Humoganj, after a former Collector, and a dispensary. It is administered under Act XX of 1856 with an income and expenditure of about Rs. 2,500. Trade is increasing, especially with Gwalior and Jālaun, and the bazar has recently been extended towards the south. There was one cotton gin, employing 200 hands in 1903, and a second was completed at the end of the year. The town school contains about 200 pupils and an aided primary school 25.

Etāwah City.—Municipality and headquarters of *tahsīl* and District of the same name, United Provinces, situated in 26° 46' N. and 79° 1' E. It lies on the East Indian Railway, at the junction of the road from Farrukhābād to Gwalior with the old imperial road from Agra to Allahābād. Population 42,570 (1901), of whom 28,544 are Hindus and 12,742 Musalmāns. The city dates back to a period before the Musalmān conquest, but nothing is known of its early history. It became the seat of a Muhammadan governor, and is frequently mentioned by the Persian historians, and was repeatedly attacked and plundered in the troublous times after the death of Fīroz Shāh Tughlak, when its Hindu chief raised the standard of revolt. Under Akbar it was the chief town of a *pargana* and is noted in

the Ain-i-Akbari as possessing a brick fort. A century later Etāwah was famous as a banking and commercial centre ; but in the 18th century it suffered much from Rohilla and afterwards from Marāthā raids. For its later history and events of the Mutiny, see ETAWAH DISTRICT. The Jāma Masjid is a fine building constructed from a Hindu temple, with a massive front or propylon resembling those of the great mosques at JAUNPUR. There are also some fine Hindu temples and bathing *ghāts* and a great mound with a ruined fort. The town is situated among the ravines of the Jumna, to the banks of which the suburbs extend. Humganj, a handsome square, called after a former Collector, Mr. A. O. Hume, C.B., contains the public buildings and forms the centre of the city. It includes a market-place, *tahsil*, mission-house, police-station, and male and female hospitals. The Hume High School, built chiefly by private subscriptions, and one of the first to be founded in the United Provinces, is a handsome building. The north and south sides of the square form the principal grain and cotton markets. The civil station lies about half a mile north of the town. Besides the ordinary District staff, two Executive Engineers and an officer of the Opium department have their headquarters here. Etāwah is also the chief station of the American Presbyterian Mission in this District. The municipality was constituted in 1864. In the 10 years ending 1901 the average income was Rs. 37,000 and expenditure Rs. 36,000. In 1903-04 the income was Rs. 55,000, chiefly from octroi, Rs. 41,000, and the expenditure Rs. 50,000. There are no important manufactures, but cloth is woven, and the town is noted for a sweetmeat. In 1903 seven cotton gins and presses employed 805 hands. Trade consists largely in the export of *ghi*, *gram*, cotton, and oilseeds. The municipality maintains four schools and aids 8 others, with a total attendance of 814 pupils in 1904.

Jaswantnagar.—Town in *tahsil* and District Etāwah, United Provinces, situated in 23° 53' N. and 78° 53' E., on the East Indian Railway. Population 5,405 (1901). The town is named after Jaswant Rai, a Kūyasth from Mainpuri, who settled here in 1715. A small Hindu temple west of the town was occupied on May 19th, 1857, by mutineers of the 3rd Native Cavalry; during a bold attempt to dislodge them, the Joint

Magistrate was wounded in the face. The town was once a municipality, but is now administered under Act XX of 1856, with an income and expenditure of about Rs. 1,800. There is a considerable trade in yarn, cattle, country produce, and English piece-goods, besides an export of *glī* and of *khārūa* cloth, which is largely manufactured. Ornamental brassware is also made here, articles for religious use by Hindus being the chief variety produced. The town school contains about 115 pupils, and there is a branch of the American Presbyterian Mission.

Phaphūnd.—Town in Auraiyā *tahsīl*, District Etāwah, United Provinces, situated in 26° 36' N. and 79° 28' E., 36 miles south-east of Etāwah. Population 7,605 (1901). The town was a place of some importance before British rule, but it declined during the 18th century. It was formerly the headquarters of a *tahsīl*, and is still the residence of a Munsiff, and contains a dispensary. The tomb and mosque of a celebrated saint, Shāh Bukhārī, who died in 1549, attract about 10,000 pilgrims annually. Phaphūnd is administered under Act XX of 1856, with an annual income of about Rs. 2,000. There is little trade. The town school has about 200 pupils, and a girls' school about 30.

Etah District (Eta).—District in the Agra Division, United Provinces, lying between 27° 18' and 28° 2' N. and 78° 11' and 79° 17' E., with an area of 1,737 square miles. It is bounded on the north by the river Ganges, separating it from Budaun District; on the west by Aligarh, Muttra, and Agra; on the south by Agra and Mainpurī; and on the east by Farrukhābād. Bound-
aries,
configura-
tion, and
river
system. Bordering on the Ganges lies a broad stretch of alluvial land, known as the *tarai*, reaching to the old high bank of the river. Below this is the stream called the Būrhgangā, or old bed of the Ganges, which had become blocked in places by spits of sand, but has been deepened and straightened by the Irrigation department, and now carries off drainage. The rest of the District is situated in the upland plain of the Doāb, and its physical features depend chiefly on the rivers which cross it from north-west to south-east. The largest of these is the KALĪ NADI EAST or Kālindrī, as it is generally and more correctly called in this District. It has a deep and well-defined channel, but occasionally brings down disastrous floods. The other rivers are the Isan, Arind, and Sengar (also called the Isan hore), which are

dry in the hot weather. The central tract contains a few marshes or *jhils*.

Botany. The flora of the District presents no peculiarities. Trees and groves are comparatively scarce, and the mango, *nim* (*Melia azadirachta*), tamarind, and *jāmun* (*Eugenia jambolana*) are perhaps the commonest trees. The only jungle is composed of *dhāk* (*Butea frondosa*) or *babul* (*Acacia arabica*). The reeds found in the *tarai* are used extensively for thatching and for making rope.

Geology. The District consists entirely of Gangaetic alluvium and *kankar* or calcareous limestone, and saline efflorescences on the soil, are the only minerals found.

Fauna. Etah was formerly noted for the sport it afforded, and wild pig and antelope are still fairly common. Wild cattle have now become very rare, and the improvements to the Bāhgangā have lessened its attractions for wild fowl. Wolves are occasionally found and jackals, though occurring in many parts, are comparatively rare.

Climate and rainfall. The absence of many large marshes and the common occurrence of barren areas and sandy soil, together with the facilities for drainage, make the climate of Etah, except south of the Kālī Nadi, dry and healthy; but dust-storms are frequent in the hot weather. In winter the cold is sometimes intense, though frost is rare. The average rainfall for the District is 29 inches, varying from 25 in the Jalesar *tahsil* in the west, to 34 in *tahsil* Aliganj in the east.

History. The early history of the District is altogether uncertain. Ancient mounds along the Kālī Nadi point to the presence of important towns early in the Christian era. Tradition says that Ahīrs and Bhārs were followed by Rājputs, and the District must have formed part of the kingdom of Kanauj. When that great state was conquered by Muhammadans, Etah came under Muslim rule, and was governed from Koil, Biānā or Kanauj. Patiāli, in the north of the District, was the principal town, and it was visited by Ghiyās-ud-dīn Balban about 1270, who chastised the lawless peasantry in the neighbourhood, and left a garrison to keep open the roads and protect caravans and merchants. Constant expeditions were required in later years, and in the 15th century the District suffered from the struggle

between Delhi and Jaunpur, and was taken and retaken by the contending troops. Bahlol Lodī died at Sakit in 1489 from wounds inflicted in a battle with the Rājputs. Under Akbar, raids against the refractory Hindus continued, and in the 18th century the District fell into the hands of the Bangash Nawābs of Farrukhābād; but even these never obtained a firm hold. Later it was shared between the Nawāb of Oudh and the Nawāb of Farrukhābād and was acquired by the British in 1801-02, when the present area was distributed among the surrounding Districts. After many territorial changes a sub-division was made in 1815, on account of the lawlessness of the outlying portions, which included most of the present District, and Etah became a separate charge in 1856.

The succeeding year saw the outbreak at Moorat which quickly developed into the Mutiny of 1857. As soon as the troops garrisoned at Etah received intelligence of the revolt at Aligarh, the whole body left the station without any disturbance. As there was no place of strength in the town and no force with which to defend it, the Magistrate found it necessary to withdraw until the mutineers from Mainpurī and Etāwah had passed through. After a gallant but unsuccessful attempt to hold Kāsganj, the whole District was abandoned on the 7th of June, and the officers reached Agra in safety. Damar Singh, Rājā of Etah, then set himself up as an independent ruler in the south of the District. As usual, however, rival claimants appeared in various quarters; and towards the end of July the rebel Nawāb of Farrukhābād took practical possession of the country for some months. On the approach of General Greathed's column, the rebels retired for a while, and Mr. Coles was appointed Special Commissioner for Etah and Aligarh. The force at his disposal, however, was quite insufficient to restore order, and the rebels still continued to hold Kāsganj. It was not till the 15th of December that Colonel Seaton's column attacked the rebels at Gangrī in the Aligarh District, and after totally routing them, occupied Kāsganj. By the middle of 1858 order was completely restored, and peace has not since been disturbed.

The District contains several important ancient sites, though these have not been fully explored. Atranjī Khora and Bilsar Archæology.

have at different times been identified with the Pi-lo-shan-na visited by Hiuen Tsiang in the 7th century.* At Bilsar were found two pillars with inscriptions of Kumāra Gupta, dated in 415-16 A.D.† The village of Nūh Khara has extensive mounds containing relics of the Buddhist period, and it is still regarded by several of the Gipsy tribes as their headquarters. Patiāli, Sarai Aghat, and Soron are other places of great antiquity, while the chief Muhammadan buildings are found at MARAHRa and Sakit.

The
people.

There are 18 towns and 1,466 villages in the District. Population has fluctuated considerably in the last 30 years; 1872, 829,118; 1881, 756,523; 1891, 701,679; and 1901, 863,948. The great decrease between 1872 and 1891 was due to the deterioration of the land owing to flooding about 1884; but there is some reason to believe that the figure for 1872 was over-estimated, and it is probable that the population did not alter between 1872 and 1881. There are four *tahsils*: ETAH, KASGANJ, ALIGANJ, and JALASAR, the headquarters of each being at a place of the same name. The chief towns are the municipalities of KASGANJ, JALASAR, SORON, and ETAH, the District headquarters, and the notified area of Marāhra. The following table shows the principal statistics of population in 1901:—

Tahsil.	Area in square miles.	Number of—		Population.	Population per square mile.	Percentage of variation in population between 1891 and 1901.	Number of persons able to read and write.
		Towns.	Villages.				
Etah ...	492	4	403	259,773	528	+ 12.6	6,160
Kāsganj ...	492	6	468	265,216	539	+ 27.7	6,016
Aliganj ...	526	6	379	205,560	391	+ 21.2	2,900
Jalasar ...	227	2	156	133,399	588	+ 9.3	3,567
District Total ...	1,737	18	1,466	863,948	497	+23.1	18,643

Hindus form 88 per cent. of the total population and Musalmāns nearly 11 per cent. The density of population is about

* Cunningham, *Archæological Survey Reports*, I, p. 269 and XI, p. 13.

† Fleet, *Gupta Inscriptions*, p. 42.

the same as that of the surrounding Districts, but the rate of increase between 1891 and 1901 was the highest in the Provinces. This was due to the recovery of the District after previous years of bad seasons due to flooding. Western Hindi is spoken by almost the entire population, the prevailing dialect being Braj.

The most numerous castes among Hindus are: Chamārs (leather-workers and labourers; 114,000), Ahīrs (graziers and cultivators; 88,000), Lodhas (cultivators; 88,000), Rājputs, 80,000, Brāhmans, 63,000, and Kāchhīs (cultivators; 62,000). The District generally contains several gangs of wandering tribes, such as Hāburās and Nats. Among Muhammadans are found Shaikhs, 15,000, Pathāns, 12,000; Fakīrs, 7,000; and Rājputs, 6,000. The agricultural population forms nearly 69 per cent. of the total—a high proportion. Rājputs, Brāhmans, and Kāyasths are the principal landholders, while Rājputs, Brāhmans, Lodhas, Ahīrs, and Kāchhīs are the chief cultivators.

Of the 4,268 native Christians in 1901, more than 3,700 were Methodists. The American Methodist Mission, to which these belong, is controlled from Agra, each *tahsīl* forming a circuit. The American Presbyterian Church commenced work in the District in 1843, but has only recently appointed a minister here. There are also branches of the Church Missionary Society at Soron and Kāsganj.

The District comprises three natural tracts. The *tarai*, lying between the Ganges and its old high bank, south of the Būrhgangā, contains rich fertile soil in its lower parts, while the higher ridges are bare sand. It is especially liable to injury from floods or from waterlogging. Between the Būrhgangā and the Kālī Nadi lies an area which consists of a light sandy soil, flanked by strips of high sandy uplands near the rivers, but changing near the centre to loam and barren *ūsar*. This tract also has suffered much in the past from waterlogging, and, where cultivation is relaxed, from the growth of the grass called *kāns* (*Saccharum spontaneum*). Along the south bank of the Kālī Nadi stretches another line of high sandy soil, beyond which is a rich plain of fertile loam interspersed with *ūsar* plains.

Chief
agricul-
tural sta-
tistics
and prin-
cipal
crops.

The tenures of the District are those usually found in the United Provinces. Out of 2,500 *mahāls* about 1,500 are *zamīn-dāri* and 1,000 *pattidāri* or *bhaiyāchārā*, the last class being very few in number. The principal statistics of cultivation in 1898-99* are shown below in square miles :—

<i>Tahsil.</i>	Total.	Cultivated	Irrigated.	Culturable waste.
Etah	492	274	171	41
Kāsganj	492	317	108	76
Aliganj	526	287	85	134
Jalesar	227	148	87	15
Total	1,737	1,036	451	250

The areas in square miles under the principal food crops in the same year were: wheat (332), barley (147), *bājra* (140), *jowār* (123), maize (113), and *gram* (99). Cotton occupied 18 square miles, sugarcane 27, indigo 23, and opium 12.

Improve-
ments in
agricul-
tural
practice.

There has been some improvement in agricultural methods during the last 30 years. This has chiefly taken the form of an increase in the double-cropped area. Wheat has largely taken the place of barley, and maize is more extensively grown. The cultivation of indigo had largely extended at one time, but is now practically non-existent. A most important change has been the opening of the Fatehgarh branch of the Upper Ganges Canal, accompanied by the improvement of drainage throughout the District. The cultivators take advances readily under the Agriculturists' Loans Act in adverse seasons, whether wet or dry, and received more than 1½ lakhs between 1891 and 1904. The amounts lent under the Land Improvement Act only reached Rs. 90,000, more than half of which was advanced in 1896-97.

Cattle,
ponies,
and sheep.

The breed of cattle is of the ordinary inferior type found in the Doāb Districts; but in the Jalesar *tahsil* the animals are a little better. An attempt has been made to improve the breed of horses and ponies, and since 1894 a Government stallion has

* Later figures are not available owing to settlement operations.

been kept here. Private persons also maintain two good stallions. The sheep and goats are inferior.

In the *taraī* irrigation is usually unnecessary, though wells ^{Irriga-} can be readily made when required. The rest of the District ^{tion.} is served by the Fatehgarh and Bawar branches of the Lower Ganges Canal and the Cawnpore and Etāwah branches of the Upper Ganges Canal. The main channel of the Lower Ganges Canal crosses the Kālī Nālī at Nadrai, near Kāsganj, by a magnificent aqueduct which was carried away by a flood in 1885, and has been rebuilt. Wells can be made in the whole of this tract, except in the high sandy ridges near the rivers, but are often of little use where the sub-soil is sandy. In 1902-03 the total area irrigated was 461 square miles, of which wells supplied 254, canals 176, tanks 18, and rivers 13. In dry years the rivers are used more extensively.

Block *kankar* or calcareous limestone is found in the ^{Mineral s.} uplands, and the nodular form occurs in all parts of the District. Saltpetre, salt, and sulphate of soda are found in saline efflorescences.

The chief industries carried on in the District are cotton- ^{Arts and} weaving, sugar-refining, glass-making, and the preparation of ^{Manufac-} saltpetre and sulphate of soda. Cotton is woven as a hand industry all over the District. Sugar refineries conducted by native methods are found chiefly in the towns near the *taraī*, where cane is largely grown. About 250 factories prepare crude saltpetre, the average outturn annually being approximately 100 maunds at each. There are 8 refineries, which produce an annual outturn of nearly 8,000 maunds of refined saltpetre. Sulphate of soda is made at about 80 factories, each producing 200 maunds annually. A cotton press employed 128 hands in 1903, and 3 cotton gins, 795. Five other factories have been opened since.

Etah has a considerable export trade in agricultural pro- ^{Com-} duce. Cotton, wheat, barley, pulses, millet, opium, and sugar ^{merce.} are the chief items; but saltpetre and country glass are also exported. The imports include piece-goods, metals, and salt. Most of the foreign traffic is carried by the railway, but a great deal passes by road to and from the adjacent Districts. There is a little traffic on the canal with Aligarh, Mainpuri, and

Cawnpore. Kāsganj and Jalesar are the chief trading centres, and Soron is noted as a place of pilgrimage.

Railways
and
Roads.

The Cawnpore-Achhnerā Railway is at present the only line in the District which it crosses from east to west. A branch line connects Kāsganj with Soron on the Bīrhgangā, and is now being extended by the Rohilkhand and Kumaun Railway across the Ganges to Budaun and Baroilly. The East Indian Railway passes close to the western border of the Jalesar *tahsil*. The total length of metalled roads is 140 miles and of unmetalled, 488. The metalled roads are all in charge of the Public Works department; but the cost of maintaining 37 miles is charged to the District board, which is also in charge of the unmetalled roads. Avenues are maintained on 165 miles. The Grand trunk road passes through the District from south-east to north-west, and other metalled roads lead to Agra, Muttra, Mainpuri, and to the Ganges.

Famines.

The memory of the famines of 1783-84 and of 1803 long survived in this District. In 1837-38 famine was again severe, and many deaths occurred in spite of relief measures, while the price of all seeds doubled. The next great famine occurred in 1860-61, and was known to the peasantry by the graphic title of 'seven *seer* famine,' as the cheapest food grain sold at the rate of 7 *seers* per rupee. In 1868-69 the District escaped from famine, though visited by drought and scarcity, and in 1877-78 canal irrigation saved a large area of the crops, but distress was felt among the crowds of immigrants who poured into the District from the tracts south of the Jumna. Before the next famine of 1896-97 canal irrigation had been largely extended, and though relief works were opened, the numbers who came to them were small.

istrict
"

The Collector is assisted by a member of the Indian Civil Service (when available) and 4 Deputy Collectors recruited in India. A *tahsildār* is stationed at the headquarters of each *tahsil*.

Civil Jus-
tice and
Crime.

There are 3 Munsiffs, and the whole District is included in the civil and criminal jurisdiction of the Judge of Aligarh, sessions cases being usually tried by the Additional Judge. Crime is very heavy in Etah, and murders, dacoities, and cattle-thefts are common, besides the more ordinary forms. Cases under

the Opium and Excise Acts are also fairly frequent. Female infanticide was formerly rife, but no portion of the population is now under surveillance.

The nucleus of the District was formed out of the surrounding Districts in 1845, and its early fiscal history belongs to Farrukhābād, Budaun, Aligarh, and Mainpurī. The earliest settlements, after acquisition by the British, were for short terms and were based merely on a consideration of the previous demands and a rough estimate of the condition of villages. The first regular settlement under Regulation IX of 1833 was carried out in the Districts named above before the District became a separate unit, and the revenue assessed was about 7·2 lakhs, excludng the Jalesar *tahsīl* which was added later. A subsequent revision of settlement was made, at first, by various Collectors, in addition to their ordinary District work, and later by settlement officers, between 1863 and 1873. The methods adopted varied, but agreed in selecting rates of rent for each class of soil, and valuing the annual assets at these rates, modified by the circumstances of individual villages. The demand so fixed amounted to 9·3 lakhs. In 1879 the Jalesar *tahsīl* was transferred from Agra to this District, the revenue on which amounted to 2·9 lakhs. After heavy rainfall in 1884-86 there was great deterioration in the *tarai* and central tract, and a large area fell out of cultivation and became covered by *kāns* (*Saccharum spontaneum*). By 1893 the revenue had been reduced by Rs. 57,000. The existing demand falls at R. 1-2-0 per acre, and varies from 7½ annas in the *tarai* to Rs. 2-2-0 in Jalesar *tahsīl*; but the District is now (1904) under resettlement. Collections in thousands of rupees, on account of land revenue and total revenue, have been—

	1880-81.	1890-91.	1900-01.	1903-04.
Land revenue	10,87,	9,90,	11,33,	10,93,
Total revenue	14,32,	13,85,	16,39,	16,67,

There are 4 municipalities, KASGANJ, JALESAR, SORON, and Local self-ETAH, and one notified area, MARAHLA, besides 13 towns administered under Act XX of 1856. Beyond the limits of these, local government. affairs are managed by the District board which had an income

of Rs. 96,000 in 1903-04, chiefly from local rates. The expenditure on roads and buildings in the same year was Rs. 51,000.

Police and Jails. There are 17 police-stations, and the District Superintendent of Police commands a force of 4 inspectors, 83 subordinate officers, and 322 men; besides 200 municipal and town police, and over 1,500 rural and road police. The District jail contained a daily average of 267 inmates during 1903.

Education. Etah takes a low place as regards the literacy of its population, and in 1901 only 2·2 per cent. (3·8 males and ·2 females) could read and write. The number of public schools fell from 155 in 1880-81 to 139 in 1900-01; but the number of pupils increased from 4,306 to 4,585. In 1903-04 there were 229 public schools with 7,179 pupils, of whom 620 were girls, besides 129 private schools with 1,314. Most of the schools are elementary or primary; three are managed by Government, and 136 by the District or municipal boards. Out of a total expenditure of Rs. 34,000 in 1903-04 the District and municipal boards contributed Rs. 28,000, and the receipts from fees were only Rs. 2,500.

Hospitals and dispensaries. There are 10 hospitals and dispensaries, with accommodation for 90 in-patients. In 1903, 76,000 cases were treated including 800 cases of in-patients and 2,600 operations were performed. The expenditure was Rs. 11,000, chiefly met from local funds.

Vaccination. About 30,000 persons were successfully vaccinated in 1903-04, representing a proportion of 35 per 1,000 of population. Vaccination is only compulsory in the municipalities.

(S. O. B. Ridsdale, *Settlement Report*, 1874; *District Gazetteer*, 1876 [under revision].)

Etah Tahsil.—Central *tahsil* of Etah District, United Provinces, comprising the *parganas* of Etah-Sakit, Sonhār, and Mārahra, and lying between 27° 20' and 27° 47' N. and 78° 25' and 78° 56' E., with an area of 492 square miles. Population increased from 227,030 in 1891 to 259,773 in 1901. There are 463 villages and 4 towns, the largest of which are ETAH, the District and *tahsil* headquarters, population 8,796, and MARAHRĀ, 8,622. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 4,06,000 and for cesses Rs. 66,000. The density of population, 528 to the square mile, is above the District average. This *tahsil* is bounded on the north and east by the Kālī Nadi, while the Isan flows across the southern

portion. A small alluvial tract lies on the bank of the Kālī Nadi from which a gentle slope leads to the upland area. The edge of the slope is sandy, but most of the *tahsil* is a fertile area which, however, tends to become sandy in the east and is interspersed with stretches of barren *ūsar* land. Ample irrigation is afforded by the main channel of the Lower Ganges Canal and its Bewar branch, and by the Cawnpore and Etāwah branches of the Upper Ganges Canal. The Irrigation department has done much to improve the drainage. In 1898-99 the cultivated area was 274 square miles, of which 171 were irrigated. Wells supply more than double the area served by canals.

Kāsganj Tahsil.—Northern *tahsil* of Etah District, United Provinces, comprising the *ptygmus* of Ulai, Bīlāni, Pachlāni, Soron, Sidhpura, Sakāwar-Karsāni, and Faizpur-Baharā, and lying between 27° 33' and 28° 2' N. and 78° 29' and 78° 54' E., with an area of 492 square miles. Population increased from 191,825 in 1891 to 265,216 in 1901. There are 468 villages and 6 towns, the largest of which are KASGANJ, the *tahsil* headquarters, population 19,686, SONON, 12,175, and SAILAWAR, 5,079. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 2,91,000 and for cesses Rs. 44,000. The new settlement will raise the demand for revenue to Rs. 3,26,000 and for cesses to Rs. 53,000. The density of population, 539 to the square mile, is above the District average. Population increased by nearly 28 per cent. between 1891 and 1901, a higher proportion than in any other *tahsil* in the United Provinces. The *tahsil* is bounded on the north-east by the Ganges and on the south-west by the Kālī Nadi. It thus lies entirely in the *tarai* and in the central *doab* which are the most precarious tracts in the District. Heavy rain in 1884-86 led to extensive water-logging, and the land which fell out of cultivation was overgrown by *kāns* (*Saccharum spontaneum*). Extensive reclamation of revenue was made, and, to prevent further deterioration, the drainage was improved. The Bārighangā, which lies below the old high bank on the southern edge of the *tarai*, has been deepened and straightened. 317 square miles were cultivated in 1898-99, of which 108 were irrigated. The *tarai* is so moist that irrigation is not usually required, and the upland area is

supplied by the Lower Ganges Canal and its Fatohgarh branch. Wells serve about half the area irrigated.

Aliganj Tahsil.—Eastern *tahsil* of Etah District, United Provinces, comprising the *parganas* of Azamnagar, Barna, Patiali, and Nidhpur, and lying between 27° 19' and 27° 54' N. and 78° 52' and 79° 17' E., with an area of 526 square miles. Population increased from 161,994 in 1891 to 205,560 in 1901. There are 379 villages and 6 towns, the largest of which is ALIGANJ, the *tahsil* headquarters, population 5,835. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 2,11,000 and for cesses Rs. 38,000. The new settlement has raised the demand for revenue to Rs. 2,29,000. The density of population, 391 to the square mile, is the lowest in the District, the average for which is 502. The Ganges forms the northern boundary and the Kālī Nadi the southern, and the *tahsil* thus lies entirely in the most precarious tract in the District. Bordering on the Ganges is a low area of alluvial land, stretching up to the old high bank of the river, below which the Būrhgaugā, which has been deepened and straightened, marks the old bed. The banks of the Ganges and Kālī Nadi are both marked by sandy ridges, and where the rivers approach each other the light soil almost meets. In the east is found a considerable area of rich loam. Heavy rain causes the whole *tahsil* to deteriorate, and reductions of revenue were made between 1891 and 1893. 287 square miles were cultivated in 1898-99, of which 85 were irrigated. The Ganges *tarai* does not require irrigation as a rule; but the upland portion is supplied by the Fatohgarh branch of the Lower Ganges Canal. Wells supply about two-thirds of the irrigated area.

Jalesar Tahsil.—South-western *tahsil* of Etah District, United Provinces, conterminous with *pargana* of same name, and lying between 27° 18' and 27° 35' N. and 78° 11' and 78° 31' E., with an area of 227 square miles. Population increased from 121,030 in 1891 to 133,399 in 1901. There are 156 villages and 2 towns, of which JALESAR, the *tahsil* headquarters, population 14,348, is the largest. The demand for land revenue in 1903-04 was Rs. 2,76,000 and for cesses Rs. 45,000, but under the new settlement these figures will be raised to Rs. 2,88,000 and Rs. 47,000. The density of population, 588 to the square mile, is the greatest in the District. This *tahsil* forms an extensive,

almost unbroken plain. The Rind or Arind touches the north-east corner; but the chief river is the Sengar, also known in this part of its course as the Isan. Irrigation is provided by means of the Etāwah branch of the Upper Ganges Canal. The *tahsīl* is generally fertile, but is crossed by a line of sand hills, and is interspersed by patches of barren soil or *ūsar* and marshes. The drainage has recently been improved. In 1898-99 the cultivated area was 148 square miles, of which 87 were irrigated. The canal supplies more than a third of the irrigated area, and wells most of the remainder. In dry seasons the Sengar or Isan has been largely used as a source of irrigation.

Awa Estate.—A large estate situated in the Etah, Aligarh, Mainpurī, Agra, and Muttra Districts, United Provinces, with an area of 265 square miles. The land revenue payable to Government in 1903-04 was 3·3 lakhs, and cesses amounted to Rs. 51,000; the rent-roll was 7·3 lakhs. A small area in the Muttra District is revenue-free. The family annals commence in the early part of the 18th century when Chaturbhuj, a Jādon Rājput, migrated from Chhātā in the Muttra District to Jalesar, and was employed as physician by the local governor. His son, Bijai Singh, obtained a small military command, and the family gained local influence by assisting the *zamīndārs* of adjacent villages, who were involved in pecuniary difficulties. Bakht Singh, son of Bijai Singh, was for a time in the service of Jawāhir Singh, Rājā of Bharatpur, and obtained a number of villages, the profits from which enabled him to enlist a troop of marauding Mewātīs. The Marāthās allowed him to build a fort at Awa. During the Marāthā wars the head of the family aided Lord Lake, and in 1803 was confirmed in the estate he held. When the Mutiny broke out in 1857 the District officer made over the *pargana* of Jalesar to the Rājā, and requested him to show his loyalty by maintaining Government authority. The confidence was well repaid, and the Rājā raised troops, attacked the insurgent villages, collected the revenue, and remitted it to Agra. The present Rājā, Balwānt Singh, C.I.E., was for some time a member of the Legislative Council of the United Provinces, and takes an exceptionally keen interest in the management of his estate. JALESAR is the principal town in the estate, and a cotton gin and press, with the latest

machinery, have recently been opened here. The Rājā's residence is at Awa, which is a small town in the Etah District, 14 miles from Etah, on a metalled road, with a population of 2,823 (1901). The fort is situated close to the town and is a formidable stronghold, built of mud and brick, and surrounded by a deep moat nearly a mile in circumference. Awa is administered under Act XX of 1856 with an income and expenditure of about Rs. 900. The town contains a dispensary maintained by the Rājā, and a saltpetre refinery is situated close by. The primary school contains about 100 pupils.

Aliganj Town.—Headquarters town in *tahsil* of same name, District Etah, United Provinces, situated in 27° 29' N. and 79° 11' E., 34 miles east of Etah on the road to Farrukhābād. Population 5,835 (1901). It was founded by Yākūt Khān, a eunuch in the employ of the Nawāb of Farrukhābād, who was killed in 1748 in battle with the Rohillas, and is buried here. The shops are chiefly of mud, but there are a few large brick-built houses, the residences of the wealthier traders. Aliganj contains a *tahsil* and dispensary. It was a municipality for some years, but is now administered under Act XX of 1856 with an annual income of about Rs. 1,500. There is a small trade in the collection of grain and cotton, which are exported from Thāna-Darynoganj station on the Cawnpore-Achhnerā Railway, 9 miles away. The town school contains 140 pupils.

Etah Town.—Municipality and headquarters of *tahsil* and District of same name, United Provinces, situated in 27° 41' N. and 78° 41' E. It lies on the Grand trunk road 19 miles from the Kāsganj station of the Cawnpore-Achhnerā Railway. Population 8,796 (1901). The town is said to have been founded in the 14th century by Sangram Singh, a Chauhān Rājput descended from Prithvi Rāj of Delhi. His descendants occupied the surrounding territory until the Mutiny, when Rājā Damar Singh rebelled. Etah derives its importance chiefly from the presence of the civil station removed here from Patiali in 1856 on account of its more central position. The principal market place, Maynoganj, which has been recently improved and enlarged and is the property of the municipality, perpetuates the name of Mr. F. O. Mayo, C.B., a former Collector of the District.

Westward lies the new town with the principal public buildings, a fine temple, school, municipal hall, *tahsīlī*, dispensary and hospital, and the District offices. The site is low and was formerly subject to floods; but a cutting to the Isan river, effected by Mr. Mayne, partially remedied this evil, and a more effective drainage scheme been undertaken by the municipality, through the Canal department. The American Methodist and Presbyterian Missions are both represented in the town. Etah has been a municipality since 1865. In the 10 years ending 1901 the average income and expenditure were Rs. 12,500. In 1903-04 the income was Rs. 21,000, chiefly from octroi, Rs. 14,000, and the expenditure Rs. 23,000. There is a good deal of road traffic through the town, and eight commodious *sarais* provide for this. The *tahsīlī* school contains about 200 pupils, and the municipality maintains one school and aids 9 others with 340 pupils.

Jalesar Town.—Municipality and headquarters of *tahsīl* of same name, District Etah, United Provinces, situated in 27° 28' N. and 78° 19' E. It lies on the road from Muttra to Etah, 8½ miles from the Jalesar Road station on the East Indian Railway. Population 14,348 (1901). The town consists of two parts, the fort and the lower town. The fort is said to have been erected by a Rānā of Mewār in the 15th century, but nothing remains of the buildings except a mound on which the *tahsīlī*, *munsiffī*, police-station, and municipal hall now stand. The lower town is a collection of narrow streets and lanes, the drainage of which was very defective, but the municipality has completed an effective drainage scheme, through the Canal department. The streets are well paved and there is a dispensary. Jalosar has been a municipality since 1866. In the 10 years ending 1901, the average income and expenditure were Rs. 10,000. In 1903-04 the income was Rs. 14,000, chiefly from octroi, Rs. 11,000; and the expenditure Rs. 13,000. There is not much trade, but country cloth, glass bangles, and pewter ornaments are made, and the largest saltpetre factory in the District is situated here. The Rājā of Awa has opened a cotton gin which employed 125 hands in 1903. A *tahsīlī* school contains about 130 pupils, and the municipality maintains 2 schools and aids 6 others with a total attendance of 331.

Kāsganj Town.—Municipality and headquarters of the *tahsil* of the same name, District Etah, United Provinces, situated in 27° 48' N. and 78° 39' E. It lies on the Cawnpore-Achhnerā Railway, and also on the road from Muttra to Bareilly. A short branch railway connects Kāsganj with SONON near the Ganges, and an extension to Bareilly is under construction. This is the chief trade centre of the District, and population is increasing: 1891, 16,050; 1901, 19,686. The town is said to have been founded by Yākūt Khān, a eunuch, in the service of Muhammad Khān, Nawāb of Farrukhābād. It afterwards came into the hands of Colonel James Gardner, who was in the employ of the Marāthās, and later in British service. He raised a regiment, now known as Gardner's horse, and acquired a large property which was dissipated by his descendants. Part of the property fell into the hands of Dilsukh Rai, once an agent to the Gardner family, and one of his descendants has built a magnificent residence near the town. Kāsganj stands on an elevated site, its drainage flowing towards the Kālī Nadi, which runs about a mile south-east of the town. A new drainage scheme has recently been completed. The town contains two fine bazars crossing each other at right angles. At the junction a fine octagonal building, consisting of shops, forms a suitable centre to the town. The chief public buildings are the town hall, dispensary, *tahsili*, and *munsifi*. There are also branches of the Church Missionary Society and American Methodist Missions. Close to the railway station is a considerable colony of railway employes. The town was constituted a municipality in 1868. In the 10 years ending 1901 the average income and expenditure were Rs. 15,000. In 1903-04 the income was Rs. 22,000, chiefly derived from octroi, Rs. 16,000, and the expenditure Rs. 23,000. The trade of Kāsganj, which is the busiest place in the District, is increasing, and the town is becoming an important centre for the collection and distribution of country produce, especially grain, sugar, and cotton. Sugar-refining is a growing industry, and there were also 2 cotton gins and a cotton press which employed 788 hands in 1903, while another ginning factory was opened in 1904. The town school has about 190 pupils, and 16 other schools aided by the municipality have 420 pupils.

Mārahra Town (or Mārharā).—Notified area in *tahsīl* and District Etah, United Provinces, situated in 27° 44' N. and 78° 35' E., on the Cawnpore-Achhnerā Railway. Population 8,622 (1901). The Musalmān residents form more than half the total population and have great influence throughout the Etah District. The name is said to be derived from the mythical destruction of a former village (*mār*, killing and *hara*, green, *i.e.* *jungal*). During Akbar's reign the town was the headquarters of a *dastūr*. In the 18th century it belonged to the Saiyids of Bārha in Muzaḥfarnagar, and then passed to the Nawābs of Farukhābād and of Oudh. The town is scattered and of poor appearance, but contains the ruins of two fine 17th century tombs, and another tomb and a beautiful mosque built in 1729 and 1732 respectively. There is also a dispensary. Mārahra was a municipality from 1872 to 1904, with an annual income and expenditure of about Rs. 5,000, chiefly derived from octroi. It has now been constituted a notified area, and octroi has been abolished. The trade is entirely local, but glass bangles are made. Mārahra contains 4 schools with 100 pupils and a small branch of the Aligarh College.

Sahāwar.—A town in *tahsīl* Kāsganj, District Etah, United Provinces, situated in 27° 48' N. and 78° 51' E., near the Ganeshpur station on the Cawnpore-Achhnerā Railway. Population 5,079 (1901). The town was founded by Rājā Naurang Deo, a Chauhān Rājput, who called it Naurangābād after his own name. On being attacked by the Musalmāns, the Rājā fled to Sirhpura, and the inhabitants who remained were forcibly converted to Islām. Shortly afterwards Naurang, assisted by the Rājā and the people of Sirhpura, expelled the Musalmāns, and changed the name to Sahāwar. The town is administered under Act XX of 1856 with an annual income and expenditure of about Rs. 700. There is very little trade. The primary school here contains about 80 pupils.

Soron.—Municipality in *tahsīl* Kāsganj, District Etah, United Provinces, situated in 27° 54' N. and 78° 45' E., on the Būrhgangā, an old bed of the Ganges. It is at present the terminus of a branch of the Cawnpore-Achhnerā Railway from Kāsganj; but a line is being constructed between Soron, Budāun, and Bareilly. Population 12,175 (1901). Soron is a

place of considerable antiquity. According to tradition it was known as Ukala-kshetra, but after the destruction of the demon, Hiranya Kasyapa, by Vishnu, in his Bear incarnation, the name was changed to Sūkara-kshetra (*Sūkar* or wild bear). A mound, known as the *kila* or fort, marks the site of the ancient town. A temple dedicated to Sitā and Rāma, and the tomb of a Muhammadan saint, Shaikh Jamāl, stand on the mound; but large antique bricks strew the ground on all sides, and the foundations of walls may be traced throughout. The temple was destroyed during the fanatical reign of Aurangzeb, but restored towards the close of the last century by a wealthy Baniā, who built up the vacant interstices between the pillars with plain whitewashed walls. The architectural features of the pillars resemble those of the quadrangle near the Kutab Minār at Delhi. Numerous inscriptions by pilgrims in the temple bear date from 1169 A.D.* downward. Soron lies on the old route from the foot of the hills to Hāthras and Agra, and has some pretensions as a trading mart; but it is chiefly important for its religious associations and as the scene of frequent pilgrim fairs. Up to the 17th century the Ganges flowed in the channel, now known as the Būrh-gangā, and devout Hindus, after visiting Muttra come on to Soron to bathe in the latter, which here forms a considerable pool, fringed with handsome temples and *ghāts*. The pool is irrigated by an irrigation channel. The most important bathing, however, takes place in the Ganges itself, 4 miles north of Soron. The road to Budaun crosses the Būrh-gangā by a fine stone bridge. There are many substantial houses and 50 or 60 temples shaded by fine *pipal* trees, and 30 large *dharmshālas* or rest-houses for pilgrims; some of these, exquisitely carved in Agra stone, attest the wealth and piety of pilgrims from the Native States of Gwalior and Bharatpur. The town also contains a dispensary, municipal hall, and a branch of the Church Missionary Society Mission. Soron has been a municipality since 1868. During the 10 years ending 1901 the average income and expenditure were Rs. 10,000. In 1903-04 the income was Rs. 15,000, chiefly derived from octroi, Rs. 8,000; and the expenditure Rs. 20,000. The trade is largely devoted to supplying the wants of the pilgrims; but sugar

* Cunningham, *Archæological Survey Reports*, I, p. 267.

refining is increasing in importance, and a great deal of cotton yarn is spun here as a hand industry. The municipality supports two schools and aids two others with a total attendance of 243.

Cross-references (for Imperial Gazetteer only.)

Chāta.—*Tahsīl* and town in Muttra District, United Provinces; see CHHATA.

Pināhat.—Former name of a *tahsīl* in Agra District United Provinces; see BAH.